United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service

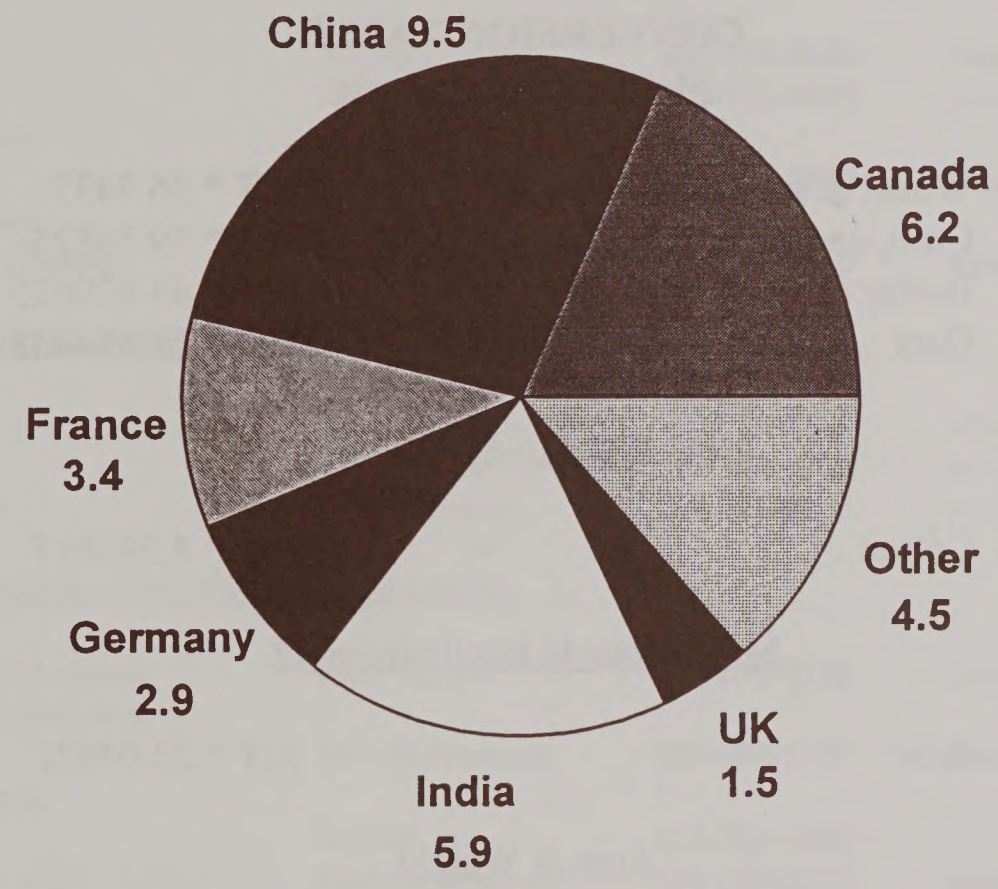
Circular Series
WAP 06-98
June 1998

World Agricultural Production

1997/98 World Rapeseed Production

by Major Countries

Million Metric Tons



World rapeseed production for 1997/98 is estimated at 33.9 million tons, up 2.3 million or 7 percent from 1996/97, but down from the record 34.5 million produced in 1995/96. Price ratios with competing crops returned to more normal levels in 1997/98 after favoring the production of wheat and other small grains in 1996/97, while a rising world demand for edible oils is helping stimulate a general trend of rising world rapeseed production. Poor weather conditions in India limited output.

Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board / USDA

This report draws on information from USDA's global network of agricultural attaches and counselors, official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, and results of office analysis. Estimates of U.S. acreage, yield, and production are from the USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board, except where noted. This report is based on unrounded data; numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. This report reflects official USDA estimates released in the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE-339), June 12, 1998.

This report was prepared by the Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division (PECAD), FAS/USDA, AgStop 1045, Washington, D.C. 20250-1045. Further information may be obtained by writing to the division, by calling (202) 720-0888, or by FAX (202) 720-8880.

The next issue of World Agricultural Production will be released after 3:30 p.m. Eastern time on July 13, 1998.

CONVERSION TABLE

Metric tons to bushels

Wheat & soybeans	=	MT * 36.7437
Corn, sorghum, rye	=	MT * 39.36825
Barley	=	MT * 45.929625
Oats	=	MT * 68.894438

Metric tons to 480-lb bales

Cotton	=	MT * 4.592917

Metric tons to hundredweight

Rice	=	MT * 22.04622

Area & Weight

1 hectare	=	2.471044 acres
1 kilogram	=	2.204622 pounds

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Foreign Agricultural Service at http://www.fas.usda.gov
FAS Weekly Weather Maps at http://www.fas.usda.gov/pecad/weather/weekly.html
National Agricultural Statistics Service at http://www.usda.gov/nass
World Agricultural Outlook Board at http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob
Economic Research Service at http://www.usda.gov/ers
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility at http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf

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June 1998

WHEAT

Country	Current Estimate MMT	1998/99 Monthly Change MMT	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1997/98 (%)	Comments
World	598.6	+1.7	+0	-2	Production is forecast higher due to increases in the United States and total foreign category.
United States	65.1	+1.0	+2	-5	Production is forecast higher based on an increase in the yield for winter wheat.
Total Foreign	533.5	+0.7	+0	-1	Production is forecast higher as output increases in Australia, Pakistan, and EU-15 more than offset a decrease in Russia.
Australia	20.0	+1.0	+5	+8	Production is forecast higher due to an increase in area. Weather has been generally favorable and planting is well underway.
Pakistan	18.5	+1.0	+6	+11	Production is forecast at a record due to increases in area and yield. A favorable growing season and increased inputs resulted in a record yield.
EU-15	100.1	+0.4	+0	+6	Production is forecast at a record as cool, wet weather in Spain boosted yield.
Brazil	2.2	+0.2	+8	-24	Production is forecast higher due to an increase in area. Planting has commenced.
Bangladesh	1.7	+0.2	+10	+10	Production is forecast higher based on favorable weather which increased yield.
Russia	38.0	-2.0	-5	-14	Production is forecast lower as weather-related spring-grains planting difficulties in the Urals and Siberia are expected to reduce area.

COARSE GRAINS

Country	Current Estimate MMT	1998/99 Monthly Change MMT	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1997/98 (%)	Comments
World	906.7	-0.1	-0	+2	Production is forecast higher due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	269.9	NC	NC	+2	Production is unchanged this month.
Total Foreign	636.9	-0.1	-0	+2	Production is forecast marginally lower as reductions in Russia and Australia more than offset an increase in the EU-15.
Russia	36.5	-1.0	-3	-11	Production is forecast lower as wet weather in the Urals and western Siberia is expected to prevent some barley plantings.
Australia	8.4	-0.5	-6	-3	Production is forecast lower based on an ABARE report, reducing barley area.
Syria	1.2	-0.4	-25	-5	Production is forecast lower as dry weather in March negatively affected barley yield for the rainfed crop.
EU-15	104.4	+1.0	+1	-4	Production is forecast higher due to favorable cool, wet weather which increased barley yield potential in Spain.

RICE (MILLED BASED)

RICE (MILLED BASED) FORECAST FOR 1998/99: World production is forecast at a record 387.0 million tons, up 3.8 million or 1 percent from 1997/98. Foreign production for 1998/99 is forecast at record 381.0 million tons, up 3.7 million or 1 percent from 1997/98. Rice production in the United States is forecast at 6.0 million, up 0.1 million or 2 percent from 1997/98.

OILSEEDS

OILSEEDS FORECAST FOR 1998/99: World oilseed production is forecast at 288.1 million tons, up 2.1 million or 1 percent from 1997/98. Foreign production for 1998/99 is forecast at a record 202.3 million tons, up 0.6 million or less than 1 percent from last year. Total oilseed production in the United States is forecast at a record 85.8 million tons, up 1.6 million or 2 percent from last year, but down 0.4 million from last month due to a reduction in cottonseed.

COTTON

COTTON FORECAST FOR 1998/99: World cotton production is forecast at 86.5 million bales, unchanged from last month as larger prospective foreign production offsets the lower U.S. crop projection. World production is down 3.5 million bales or 4 percent from 1997/98. United States production is forecast at 15.7 million bales, down 1.0 million from last month, due to adverse early-seasonal weather in California and Texas. United States production is down 3.1 million or 16 percent from 1997/98. Total foreign production is forecast at 70.8 million bales, up 1.0 million or 1 percent from last month, but down 0.4 million from 1997/98.

PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1997/98

WHEAT

Country	Current Estimate MMT	1997/98 Monthly Change MMT	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1996/97 (%)	Comments
World	609.6	-1.1	-0	+5	Production is estimated lower due to a decrease in the total foreign category.
United States	68.8	NC	NC	+11	No change this month.
Total Foreign	540.8	-1.1	-0	+4	Production is estimated lower due to reductions in Mexico and Australia.

COARSE GRAINS

Country	Current Estimate MMT	1997/98 Monthly Change MMT	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1996/97 (%)	Comments
World	892.4	-5.1	-1	-2	Production is estimated lower due to a decrease in the total foreign category.
United States	265.4	NC	NC	-1	No change this month.
Total Foreign	627.0	-5.1	-1	-2	Production is estimated lower due to reductions in corn output in China and the Philippines.

WORLD RICE (MILLED BASIS)

Country	Current Estimate MMT	1997/98 Monthly Change MMT	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1996/97 (%)	Comments
World	383.2	+2.9	+1	+1	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	5.8	NC	NC	+7	No change this month.

Country	Current Estimate MMT	1997/98 Monthly Change MMT	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1996/97 (%)	Comments
Total Foreign	377.4	+2.9	+1	+1	Production is estimated higher due to increases in China, India, and Australia.
Australia	1.0	+0.1	+9	-4	Production is estimated higher based on an ABARE report indicating higher yield.
Brazil	5.8	-0.2	-3	-10	Production is estimated lower as yield is reduced resulting from dry weather in the north and excessive wet conditions in the southern growing areas.
Philippines	6.7	-0.1	-1	-8	Production is estimated lower as area is reduced, based on El Niño-related dry weather.

OILSEEDS

Country	Current Estimate MMT	1997/98 Monthly Change MMT	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1996/97 (%)	Comments
World	286.0	+2.6	+1	+9	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	84.2	NC	NC	+13	No change this month.
Total Foreign	201.7	+2.6	+1	+8	Production is estimated higher as increases in China, Argentina, Italy, and Spain more than offset decreases in Uzbekistan and Hungary.
China	43.4	+1.7	+4	+5	Production is estimated up based on a higher soybean estimate by the Chinese State Statistical Bureau.
Argentina	23.2	+0.9	+4	+33	Production is forecast higher due to favorable soybean harvest results which were partially offset by a poorer outlook for cottonseed.
Spain	1.6	+0.5	+38	+17	Production is estimated higher. Favorable rains resulted in a record sunflower yield.

Country	1997/98 Current Estimate MMT	Monthly Change MMT	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1996/97 (%)	Comments
Italy	1.8	+0.1	+8	+23	Production is estimated higher based on increased soybean area resulting from strong demand for oilseeds.
Uzbekistan	1.9	-0.5	-20	-7	Production is estimated lower based on a reduced estimate of the cottonseed to lint ratio.
Hungary	0.7	-0.2	-18	-27	Production is estimated lower because of excessive precipitation at harvest which reduced sunflowerseed output.

PALM OIL

Country	1997/98 Current Estimate MMT	Monthly Change MMT	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1996/97 (%)	Comments
World	17.4	-0.1	-0	-0	Production is estimated lower due to a decrease in Malaysia.
Malaysia	8.6	-0.1	-1	-5	Production is estimated lower due to lower than expected output in recent months.

COTTON

Country	1997/98 Current Estimate MBALES	Monthly Change MBALES	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1996/97 (%)	Comments
World Total	90.0	+1.4	+2	+1	Production is forecast higher due to increases in the total foreign category.
United States	18.8	NC	NC	-1	No change this month.

Country	1997/98 Current Estimate MBALES	1997/98 Monthly Change MBALES	Monthly Change (%)	Change from 1996/97 (%)	Comments
Total Foreign	71.2	+1.4	+2	+1	Production is estimated higher primarily due to increases in China, which more than offset lower production mainly in Argentina.
China	21.1	+1.4	+7	+9	Production is forecast higher based on a report from the Chinese State Statistical Bureau indicating a record yield.
Burkina Faso	0.6	+0.1	+27	+56	Production is estimated higher due to harvest results indicating higher area and record yield.
Zambia	0.2	+0.1	+100	+167	Production is forecast up as harvest results indicate a record yield.
Argentina	1.2	-0.2	-14	-20	Production is estimated lower due to reduced yield caused by unfavorable weather.

TABLE 1

U.S. Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production

COMMODITY	Planted Area			Harvested Area			Yield				Production			
		Prel.	Proj.		Prel.	Proj.		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.	
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June
	--Million acres--			--Million acres--			--Bushels per acre--				--Million bushels--			
All Wheat	75.6	71.0	67.0	62.9	63.6	60.4	36.3	39.7	38.9	39.6	2,285	2,527	2,356	2,393
Winter	52.0	48.3	46.6	39.7	41.8	40.6	37.2	45.0	41.9	42.9	1,478	1,883	1,706	1,743
Other	23.6	22.7	20.4	23.2	21.8	19.8	34.8	29.5	29.8	32.8	807	644	650	650
Soybeans	64.2	70.9	72.0	63.4	69.9	70.9	37.6	39.0	39.5	39.5	2,382	2,727	2,800	2,800
Corn	79.5	80.2	80.8	73.1	73.7	74.4	127.1	127.0	129.6	129.6	9,293	9,366	9,640	9,640
Sorghum	13.2	10.1	9.0	11.9	9.4	8.0	67.5	69.5	68.5	68.5	803	653	545	545
Barley	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.4	6.4	58.5	58.3	59.8	59.8	396	374	380	380
Oats	4.7	5.2	5.2	2.7	2.9	3.1	57.8	60.5	58.9	58.9	155	176	180	180
							--Pounds per acre--				--Million CWT--			
Rice	2.8	3.1	3.1	2.8	3.0	3.1	6,121	5,896	5,980	5,980	171.3	178.9	183.0	183.0
											--Million 480-pound bales--			
All Cotton	14.6	13.8	13.2	12.9	13.3	12.0	707	680	650	630	18.9	18.8	16.7	15.7

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 2
World Crop Production Summary

Commodity	World	Total Foreign	North America			Europe			FSU-12	Asia					South America		Selected Other			All Others
			United States	Canada	Mexico	European Union	Oth. W. Europe	Eastern Europe		China	India	Indonesia	Pakistan	Thailand	Argentina	Brazil	Australia	South Africa	Turkey	
	---Million metric tons---																			
Wheat																				
1996/97	582.2	520.0	62.2	29.8	3.5	98.5	2.2	26.4	63.3	110.6	62.1	0.0	16.9	0.0	15.9	3.2	23.7	2.7	16.0	45.3
1997/98 prel.	609.6	540.8	68.8	24.3	3.5	94.5	0.7	34.8	80.2	123.3	69.3	0.0	16.7	0.0	14.7	2.8	18.6	2.3	16.0	39.3
1998/99 proj.																				
May	596.9	532.8	64.1	24.0	3.6	99.7	1.1	33.0	73.2	118.0	67.0	0.0	17.5	0.0	12.0	2.0	19.0	2.6	16.5	43.6
June	598.6	533.5	65.1	24.0	3.6	100.1	1.1	33.0	71.2	118.0	67.0	0.0	18.5	0.0	12.0	2.2	20.0	2.6	16.5	43.7
Coarse Grains																				
1996/97	907.7	640.2	267.6	28.2	26.3	103.8	3.7	49.6	52.1	141.3	34.3	6.0	1.8	4.1	18.9	36.6	10.1	9.6	9.8	103.9
1997/98 prel.	892.4	627.0	265.4	25.2	24.3	108.8	2.6	58.2	68.0	116.7	30.7	5.7	1.9	3.7	24.3	31.8	8.7	8.5	8.5	99.3
1998/99 proj.																				
May	906.8	636.9	269.9	26.9	25.8	103.4	3.0	50.6	61.3	135.0	32.2	6.0	1.9	4.1	22.2	35.8	8.9	9.0	10.1	100.9
June	906.7	636.9	269.9	26.9	25.8	104.4	3.0	50.6	60.3	135.0	32.2	6.0	1.9	4.1	22.2	35.8	8.4	9.0	10.1	101.3
Rice (Milled)																				
1996/97	379.9	374.5	5.5	0.0	0.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.7	136.6	81.3	32.0	4.3	13.7	0.8	6.5	1.0	0.0	0.3	95.5
1997/98 prel.	383.2	377.4	5.8	0.0	0.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.8	140.0	83.5	30.9	4.4	14.5	0.6	5.8	1.0	0.0	0.2	93.7
1998/99 proj.																				
May	387.0	381.0	6.0																	
June	387.0	381.0	6.0																	
Total Grains 1/																				
1996/97	1869.9	1534.7	335.2	58.0	30.1	203.8	5.9	76.0	116.2	388.5	177.8	38.0	23.0	17.8	35.6	46.3	34.8	12.3	26.1	244.7
1997/98 prel.	1885.2	1545.1	340.0	49.5	28.0	205.1	3.3	93.0	148.9	380.0	183.5	36.6	22.9	18.2	39.6	40.4	28.2	10.8	24.7	232.3
1998/99 proj.																				
May	1890.7	1550.8	340.0																	
June	1892.4	1551.4	341.0																	
Oilseeds 2/																				
1995/96	259.7	190.6	69.1	8.8	0.7	13.1	0.1	5.3	11.3	43.3	24.9	2.6	4.0	0.5	19.2	25.0	1.4	1.1	2.2	27.0
1996/97 prel.	262.5	187.6	74.8	7.3	0.5	12.9	0.1	4.7	8.4	41.4	27.3	2.4	3.7	0.5	17.5	27.5	1.8	0.8	1.9	28.9
1997/98 proj.																				
May	283.4	199.1	84.2	9.0	0.6	14.5	0.1	4.5	9.1	41.7	25.6	2.4	3.6	0.5	22.3	31.5	2.0	0.8	2.0	29.0
June	286.0	201.7	84.2	9.0	0.6	15.1	0.1	4.3	8.7	43.4	25.5	2.4	3.6	0.5	23.2	31.5	2.0	0.9	2.0	29.1
Cotton																				
1995/96	93.0	75.1	17.9	0.0	1.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	8.3	21.9	13.2	0.0	8.2	0.0	1.9	1.8	2.0	0.2	3.9	10.4
1996/97 prel.	89.3	70.4	18.9	0.0	1.1	1.8	0.0	0.0	6.5	19.3	13.8	0.0	7.3	0.0	1.5	1.3	2.8	0.2	3.6	11.1
1997/98 proj.																				
May	88.6	69.8	18.8	0.0	0.9	2.2	0.0	0.0	7.3	19.7	11.2	0.0	7.0	0.0	1.4	1.8	3.1	0.2	3.3	11.7
June	90.0	71.2	18.8	0.0	0.9	2.2	0.0	0.0	7.3	21.1	11.2	0.0	7.0	0.0	1.2	1.8	3.1	0.2	3.3	11.9

1/ Includes wheat, coarse grains, and rice (milled) shown above.
2/ Includes soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, rapeseed for individual countries. Copra and palm kernel are added to world totals.
Note: Entries of 0.0 indicate no reported or insignificant production.

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 3

Wheat Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	230.91	229.81	225.24	224.14	2.52	2.65	2.65	2.67	582.22	609.59	596.95	598.64	1.70	0.28	-10.95	-1.80
United States	25.47	25.73	24.50	24.46	2.44	2.67	2.62	2.66	62.19	68.76	64.11	65.14	1.02	1.59	-3.63	-5.27
Total Foreign	205.45	204.08	200.74	199.69	2.53	2.65	2.65	2.67	520.03	540.83	532.83	533.51	0.67	0.13	-7.32	-1.35
Major Exporters	47.44	45.08	43.69	43.99	3.54	3.37	3.54	3.55	167.91	152.10	154.71	156.11	1.40	0.90	4.01	2.64
European Union	16.74	17.14	17.19	17.19	5.89	5.51	5.80	5.82	98.51	94.54	99.71	100.11	0.40	0.40	5.56	5.88
France	5.02	5.11	5.23	5.23	7.15	6.66	6.89	6.89	35.94	34.00	36.00	36.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	5.88
United Kingdom	1.98	2.04	2.14	2.14	8.15	7.39	7.94	7.94	16.10	15.05	17.00	17.00	0.00	0.00	1.95	12.96
Germany	2.59	2.73	2.77	2.77	7.29	7.28	7.22	7.22	18.92	19.87	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.67
Canada	12.26	11.40	10.60	10.60	2.43	2.13	2.26	2.26	29.80	24.30	24.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-1.23
Australia	11.34	10.84	10.80	11.10	2.09	1.71	1.76	1.80	23.70	18.55	19.00	20.00	1.00	5.26	1.45	7.79
Argentina	7.10	5.70	5.10	5.10	2.24	2.58	2.35	2.35	15.90	14.70	12.00	12.00	0.00	0.00	-2.70	-18.37
Major Importers	92.68	93.44	90.93	89.48	2.34	2.68	2.61	2.64	216.52	250.80	237.71	235.86	-1.85	-0.78	-14.94	-5.96
China	29.61	30.06	29.80	29.80	3.73	4.10	3.96	3.96	110.57	123.30	118.00	118.00	0.00	0.00	-5.30	-4.30
FSU-12	47.73	47.94	45.72	44.22	1.33	1.67	1.60	1.61	63.30	80.21	73.24	71.24	-2.00	-2.73	-8.97	-11.18
Russia	25.72	25.70	25.50	24.00	1.36	1.72	1.57	1.58	34.90	44.20	40.00	38.00	-2.00	-5.00	-6.20	-14.03
Ukraine	5.89	6.50	5.90	5.90	2.30	2.83	2.80	2.80	13.55	18.40	16.50	16.50	0.00	0.00	-1.90	-10.33
Kazakstan	12.20	11.50	10.00	10.00	0.63	0.75	0.80	0.80	7.70	8.65	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	-0.65	-7.51
Baltic States	0.52	0.57	0.58	0.58	2.68	2.69	2.61	2.61	1.40	1.55	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-2.91
Eastern Europe	8.76	9.82	9.49	9.49	3.02	3.54	3.48	3.48	26.40	34.75	32.97	32.97	0.00	0.00	-1.78	-5.12
Poland	2.48	2.56	2.55	2.55	3.46	3.21	3.37	3.37	8.58	8.19	8.60	8.60	0.00	0.00	0.41	4.97
Romania	1.80	2.35	2.00	2.00	1.76	3.06	2.85	2.85	3.17	7.19	5.70	5.70	0.00	0.00	-1.49	-20.68
Egypt	1.02	1.04	1.05	1.05	5.64	5.60	5.71	5.71	5.74	5.85	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	2.56
Morocco	3.21	2.49	3.10	3.10	1.84	0.93	1.29	1.29	5.92	2.32	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	1.68	72.64
Brazil	1.83	1.52	1.20	1.25	1.74	1.86	1.67	1.72	3.20	2.83	2.00	2.15	0.15	7.50	-0.68	-24.03
Other Foreign	65.33	65.55	66.12	66.22	2.08	2.10	2.12	2.14	135.61	137.93	140.42	141.54	1.13	0.80	3.61	2.62
India	25.01	25.93	25.60	25.60	2.48	2.67	2.62	2.62	62.10	69.28	67.00	67.00	0.00	0.00	-2.28	-3.28
Turkey	8.45	8.50	8.60	8.60	1.89	1.88	1.92	1.92	16.00	16.00	16.50	16.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	3.13
Pakistan	8.38	8.11	8.30	8.40	2.02	2.05	2.11	2.20	16.91	16.65	17.50	18.50	1.00	5.71	1.85	11.11
Mexico	0.81	0.81	0.83	0.83	3.84	4.32	4.34	4.34	3.11	3.50	3.60	3.60	0.00	0.00	0.10	2.86
Saudi Arabia	0.27	0.34	0.34	0.34	4.53	5.36	5.37	5.37	1.20	1.80	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Africa	1.29	1.38	1.50	1.50	2.09	1.65	1.73	1.73	2.70	2.28	2.60	2.60	0.00	0.00	0.32	13.89
Others	21.13	20.48	20.95	20.95	1.59	1.39	1.50	1.51	33.60	28.42	31.42	31.54	0.13	0.40	3.12	10.99

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 4

Total Coarse Grain Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	322.51	316.64	316.51	316.06	2.81	2.82	2.86	2.87	907.72	892.39	906.80	906.74	-0.06	-0.01	14.35	1.61
United States	38.38	37.55	37.31	37.31	6.97	7.07	7.23	7.23	267.56	265.42	269.87	269.87	0.00	0.00	4.45	1.68
Total Foreign	284.12	279.09	279.20	278.76	2.25	2.25	2.28	2.28	640.16	626.97	636.93	636.87	-0.06	-0.01	9.90	1.58
Major Exporters	23.57	22.47	23.12	22.89	3.01	3.13	3.08	3.08	70.95	70.38	71.08	70.58	-0.50	-0.70	0.21	0.29
Canada	8.00	7.63	8.00	8.00	3.52	3.31	3.36	3.36	28.19	25.22	26.85	26.85	0.00	0.00	1.64	6.48
Argentina	4.66	4.91	5.00	5.00	4.06	4.94	4.44	4.44	18.93	24.28	22.20	22.20	0.00	0.00	-2.07	-8.55
Australia	5.20	4.81	4.77	4.54	1.95	1.81	1.87	1.85	10.15	8.68	8.91	8.41	-0.50	-5.61	-0.27	-3.13
South Africa	4.34	3.88	3.99	3.99	2.21	2.19	2.26	2.26	9.58	8.51	9.03	9.03	0.00	0.00	0.52	6.09
Thailand	1.36	1.24	1.36	1.36	3.01	2.98	3.01	3.01	4.10	3.70	4.10	4.10	0.00	0.00	0.40	10.81
Major Importers	86.62	86.87	84.39	83.87	2.73	3.03	2.91	2.93	236.22	263.64	245.34	245.34	0.00	0.00	-18.30	-6.94
FSU-12	38.37	39.05	36.31	35.81	1.36	1.74	1.69	1.68	52.15	67.95	61.26	60.26	-1.00	-1.63	-7.70	-11.32
Russia	24.85	24.80	24.30	23.80	1.27	1.65	1.54	1.53	31.65	40.85	37.50	36.50	-1.00	-2.67	-4.35	-10.65
Ukraine	5.34	6.80	5.90	5.90	1.78	2.26	2.29	2.29	9.51	15.35	13.50	13.50	0.00	0.00	-1.85	-12.05
Kazakstan	4.55	3.96	2.69	2.69	0.71	0.80	0.84	0.84	3.23	3.16	2.26	2.26	0.00	0.00	-0.90	-28.48
Baltic States	1.20	1.23	1.23	1.23	2.20	2.25	2.24	2.24	2.65	2.77	2.76	2.76	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.33
European Union	19.64	20.46	20.27	20.07	5.28	5.32	5.10	5.20	103.75	108.84	103.41	104.41	1.00	0.97	-4.43	-4.07
Germany	4.11	4.30	4.22	4.22	5.64	5.94	5.78	5.78	23.21	25.51	24.40	24.40	0.00	0.00	-1.11	-4.34
France	3.67	3.98	3.83	3.83	7.07	7.32	6.93	6.93	25.96	29.12	26.54	26.54	0.00	0.00	-2.58	-8.87
Eastern Europe	16.18	16.30	15.90	16.08	3.06	3.57	3.18	3.15	49.56	58.21	50.59	50.59	0.00	0.00	-7.62	-13.09
Poland	6.24	6.34	6.16	6.16	2.68	2.71	2.72	2.72	16.72	17.21	16.75	16.75	0.00	0.00	-0.46	-2.69
Romania	4.04	3.88	3.85	4.03	2.74	3.86	2.95	2.82	11.06	14.95	11.36	11.36	0.00	0.00	-3.60	-24.07
Czech Rep.	0.76	0.84	0.86	0.86	3.73	3.87	3.82	3.82	2.85	3.25	3.29	3.29	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.98
Mexico	10.86	9.45	10.30	10.30	2.43	2.57	2.50	2.50	26.33	24.25	25.75	25.75	0.00	0.00	1.50	6.19
Other W. Europe	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	4.74	4.29	4.17	4.17	1.79	1.62	1.58	1.58	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-2.90
Other Foreign	173.93	169.75	171.70	172.00	1.91	1.73	1.87	1.87	332.99	292.96	320.51	320.95	0.44	0.14	27.99	9.56
China	29.10	28.16	28.38	28.63	4.86	4.14	4.76	4.71	141.32	116.70	134.95	134.95	0.00	0.00	18.25	15.64
India	32.16	31.61	31.85	31.85	1.07	0.97	1.01	1.01	34.35	30.74	32.20	32.20	0.00	0.00	1.46	4.76
Brazil	14.21	13.19	14.09	14.09	2.58	2.41	2.54	2.54	36.63	31.81	35.81	35.81	0.00	0.00	4.00	12.58
Turkey	4.63	4.73	4.68	4.68	2.12	2.14	2.16	2.16	9.83	10.13	10.13	10.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Indonesia	3.20	3.20	3.30	3.30	1.86	1.78	1.82	1.82	5.95	5.70	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	5.26
Philippines	2.72	2.55	2.75	2.75	1.55	1.53	1.53	1.53	4.22	3.90	4.20	4.20	0.00	0.00	0.30	7.69
Others	87.91	86.32	86.65	86.70	1.15	1.09	1.12	1.13	100.70	93.99	97.23	97.67	0.44	0.45	3.68	3.92

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TABLE 5

Corn Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	140.72	138.41	141.70	141.80	4.20	4.18	4.24	4.23	590.99	578.83	600.08	600.14	0.06	0.01	21.30	3.68
United States	29.60	29.83	30.11	30.11	7.97	7.97	8.13	8.13	236.06	237.90	244.87	244.87	0.00	0.00	6.97	2.93
Total Foreign	111.12	108.58	111.58	111.69	3.19	3.14	3.18	3.18	354.92	340.94	355.21	355.27	0.06	0.02	14.33	4.20
Major Exporters	7.96	7.38	7.80	7.80	3.57	4.13	3.90	3.90	28.41	30.50	30.40	30.40	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-0.33
Argentina	3.40	3.40	3.60	3.60	4.56	5.59	5.00	5.00	15.50	19.00	18.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	-1.00	-5.26
South Africa	3.36	2.90	3.00	3.00	2.68	2.76	2.83	2.83	9.01	8.00	8.50	8.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	6.25
Thailand	1.20	1.08	1.20	1.20	3.25	3.24	3.25	3.25	3.90	3.50	3.90	3.90	0.00	0.00	0.40	11.43
Major Importers	21.53	21.87	22.04	22.04	3.92	4.52	4.01	4.01	84.42	98.76	88.33	88.33	0.00	0.00	-10.44	-10.57
Eastern Europe	7.04	6.85	6.78	6.78	3.62	4.61	3.70	3.70	25.46	31.59	25.10	25.10	0.00	0.00	-6.48	-20.53
Romania	3.29	3.03	3.10	3.10	2.92	4.18	3.06	3.06	9.61	12.68	9.50	9.50	0.00	0.00	-3.18	-25.08
Yugoslavia	2.10	2.10	2.00	2.00	3.62	4.52	3.75	3.75	7.60	9.50	7.50	7.50	0.00	0.00	-2.00	-21.05
European Union	4.10	4.28	4.16	4.16	8.50	8.92	8.43	8.43	34.79	38.15	35.02	35.02	0.00	0.00	-3.13	-8.20
France	1.72	1.84	1.80	1.80	8.41	9.13	8.33	8.33	14.43	16.80	15.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	-1.80	-10.71
Italy	1.02	1.03	0.96	0.96	9.33	9.47	9.58	9.58	9.55	9.78	9.20	9.20	0.00	0.00	-0.58	-5.91
Mexico	8.23	7.40	8.00	8.00	2.30	2.43	2.38	2.38	18.92	18.00	19.00	19.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	5.56
FSU-12	2.08	3.27	3.04	3.04	2.28	3.23	2.89	2.89	4.73	10.56	8.79	8.79	0.00	0.00	-1.77	-16.77
Russia	0.70	0.80	0.80	0.80	1.57	3.38	3.13	3.13	1.10	2.70	2.50	2.50	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-7.41
Ukraine	0.67	1.65	1.40	1.40	2.74	3.21	2.86	2.86	1.84	5.30	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	-1.30	-24.53
Other W. Europe	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	8.96	8.80	8.60	8.60	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-2.27
Others	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.05	4.49	4.48	4.41	4.41	0.29	0.25	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-19.12
Other Foreign	81.63	79.33	81.74	81.84	2.97	2.67	2.89	2.89	242.10	211.67	236.49	236.55	0.06	0.03	24.87	11.75
China	24.50	23.78	24.00	24.25	5.20	4.39	5.08	5.03	127.47	104.30	122.00	122.00	0.00	0.00	17.70	16.97
Brazil	13.60	12.60	13.50	13.50	2.63	2.46	2.59	2.59	35.80	31.00	35.00	35.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	12.90
India	6.25	6.15	6.20	6.20	1.70	1.59	1.61	1.61	10.61	9.80	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	2.04
Canada	1.06	1.05	1.10	1.10	6.98	6.84	6.82	6.82	7.38	7.18	7.50	7.50	0.00	0.00	0.32	4.46
Indonesia	3.20	3.20	3.30	3.30	1.86	1.78	1.82	1.82	5.95	5.70	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	5.26
Philippines	2.72	2.55	2.75	2.75	1.55	1.53	1.53	1.53	4.22	3.90	4.20	4.20	0.00	0.00	0.30	7.69
Egypt	0.88	0.84	0.94	0.94	6.65	7.18	6.74	6.74	5.83	6.01	6.30	6.30	0.00	0.00	0.29	4.83
Zimbabwe	1.64	1.40	1.45	1.45	1.10	1.21	1.31	1.31	1.80	1.70	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.20	11.76
Others	27.79	27.76	28.50	28.36	1.55	1.52	1.53	1.54	43.04	42.08	43.59	43.65	0.06	0.14	1.56	3.71

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TABLE 6

Barley Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	66.34	65.96	64.20	63.48	2.32	2.35	2.36	2.37	153.84	154.97	151.58	150.76	-0.82	-0.54	-4.21	-2.72
United States	2.74	2.60	2.57	2.57	3.15	3.14	3.22	3.22	8.62	8.15	8.27	8.27	0.00	0.00	0.12	1.48
Total Foreign	63.60	63.36	61.63	60.91	2.28	2.32	2.33	2.34	145.22	146.82	143.31	142.49	-0.82	-0.57	-4.33	-2.95
European Union	11.38	11.85	11.74	11.54	4.55	4.44	4.30	4.46	51.72	52.62	50.50	51.50	1.00	1.98	-1.13	-2.14
Denmark	0.74	0.72	0.74	0.74	5.36	5.40	5.27	5.27	3.95	3.89	3.90	3.90	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.33
France	1.53	1.68	1.60	1.60	6.25	6.06	5.94	5.94	9.54	10.19	9.50	9.50	0.00	0.00	-0.69	-6.75
Germany	2.21	2.28	2.15	2.15	5.47	5.90	5.83	5.83	12.07	13.43	12.50	12.50	0.00	0.00	-0.93	-6.90
Italy	0.36	0.35	0.34	0.34	3.76	3.27	3.68	3.68	1.35	1.14	1.25	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.12	10.13
Spain	3.53	3.71	3.90	3.70	2.72	2.32	2.18	2.57	9.60	8.60	8.50	9.50	1.00	11.76	0.90	10.47
United Kingdom	1.27	1.33	1.25	1.25	6.14	5.91	6.00	6.00	7.78	7.85	7.50	7.50	0.00	0.00	-0.35	-4.46
FSU-12	20.54	20.88	19.22	18.72	1.35	1.63	1.64	1.63	27.76	34.09	31.47	30.47	-1.00	-3.18	-3.63	-10.63
Russia	11.85	12.50	12.50	12.00	1.34	1.66	1.56	1.54	15.90	20.80	19.50	18.50	-1.00	-5.13	-2.30	-11.06
Ukraine	3.43	3.70	3.20	3.20	1.67	2.00	2.19	2.19	5.73	7.40	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	-0.40	-5.41
Kazakstan	3.60	3.20	2.10	2.10	0.75	0.81	0.86	0.86	2.70	2.60	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	-0.80	-30.77
Baltic States	0.81	0.83	0.83	0.83	2.30	2.33	2.33	2.33	1.87	1.94	1.93	1.93	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.52
Eastern Europe	3.31	3.65	3.47	3.64	2.92	3.29	3.26	3.11	9.69	12.00	11.31	11.31	0.00	0.00	-0.69	-5.75
Poland	1.13	1.24	1.20	1.20	3.04	3.11	3.17	3.17	3.44	3.87	3.80	3.80	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-1.71
Czech Rep.	0.60	0.65	0.68	0.68	3.77	3.93	3.85	3.85	2.26	2.54	2.60	2.60	0.00	0.00	0.06	2.56
Romania	0.50	0.62	0.53	0.70	2.22	3.06	2.86	2.14	1.11	1.89	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	-0.39	-20.59
Canada	4.89	4.70	4.70	4.70	3.18	2.90	2.98	2.98	15.56	13.65	14.00	14.00	0.00	0.00	0.35	2.56
Other W. Europe	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	4.49	4.00	3.91	3.91	1.03	0.92	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-2.17
Norway	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	3.83	3.54	3.43	3.43	0.67	0.62	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-3.23
Turkey	3.65	3.70	3.60	3.60	1.97	2.00	2.00	2.00	7.20	7.40	7.20	7.20	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-2.70
Australia	3.41	3.26	3.20	3.00	2.00	1.81	1.88	1.87	6.81	5.92	6.00	5.60	-0.40	-6.67	-0.32	-5.36
China	1.30	1.30	1.20	1.20	3.08	3.08	3.17	3.17	4.00	4.00	3.80	3.80	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-5.00
Morocco	2.43	2.00	2.30	2.30	1.58	0.66	0.87	0.87	3.83	1.32	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.68	51.06
India	0.82	0.76	0.85	0.85	1.83	1.89	2.00	2.00	1.51	1.44	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00	0.26	18.38
Others	10.83	10.21	10.29	10.29	1.32	1.13	1.22	1.17	14.24	11.52	12.51	12.09	-0.42	-3.36	0.57	4.93

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TABLE 7

Oats Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	17.69	17.03	16.72	16.69	1.73	1.81	1.80	1.80	30.59	30.86	30.11	30.01	-0.10	-0.33	-0.85	-2.76
United States	1.09	1.18	1.24	1.24	2.07	2.17	2.11	2.11	2.25	2.56	2.61	2.61	0.00	0.00	0.06	2.23
Total Foreign	16.60	15.85	15.48	15.45	1.71	1.79	1.78	1.77	28.34	28.30	27.50	27.40	-0.10	-0.36	-0.91	-3.21
FSU-12	8.17	7.79	7.12	7.12	1.23	1.47	1.40	1.40	10.03	11.48	9.98	9.98	0.00	0.00	-1.50	-13.06
Russia	6.93	6.50	6.00	6.00	1.20	1.45	1.33	1.33	8.30	9.40	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	-1.40	-14.89
Ukraine	0.48	0.55	0.50	0.50	1.51	1.82	2.00	2.00	0.73	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Belarus	0.30	0.34	0.30	0.30	2.33	2.06	2.33	2.33	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Baltic States	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	2.04	2.13	2.13	2.13	0.32	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.19
Maj. Foreign Exporters	3.02	2.65	2.85	2.83	2.11	2.00	2.09	2.07	6.37	5.29	5.95	5.85	-0.10	-1.68	0.57	10.69
Canada	1.68	1.50	1.75	1.75	2.59	2.32	2.46	2.46	4.36	3.49	4.30	4.30	0.00	0.00	0.82	23.39
Australia	1.09	0.85	0.83	0.80	1.56	1.53	1.58	1.50	1.70	1.30	1.30	1.20	-0.10	-7.69	-0.10	-7.69
Argentina	0.25	0.30	0.28	0.28	1.24	1.67	1.27	1.27	0.31	0.50	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	-0.15	-30.00
Other Foreign	5.62	5.62	5.72	5.72	2.29	2.21	2.18	2.18	12.87	12.44	12.47	12.47	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.24
China	0.50	0.45	0.55	0.55	1.20	0.89	1.18	1.18	0.60	0.40	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.25	62.50
European Union	1.94	1.99	1.95	1.95	3.56	3.33	3.31	3.31	6.89	6.62	6.47	6.47	0.00	0.00	-0.16	-2.36
France	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.13	4.41	4.24	4.38	4.38	0.62	0.56	0.57	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.06
Germany	0.30	0.31	0.30	0.30	5.32	5.13	5.00	5.00	1.61	1.59	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-5.60
Italy	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	2.46	2.01	2.00	2.00	0.35	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-1.06
Finland	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	3.37	3.37	3.38	3.38	1.26	1.24	1.25	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.56
Sweden	0.28	0.32	0.30	0.30	4.32	4.05	4.00	4.00	1.20	1.28	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-5.88
Eastern Europe	1.16	1.15	1.17	1.17	2.19	2.33	2.25	2.25	2.54	2.68	2.63	2.63	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-1.87
Czech Rep.	0.07	0.08	0.07	0.07	3.24	3.21	3.21	3.21	0.21	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-10.00
Poland	0.63	0.63	0.65	0.65	2.53	2.60	2.54	2.54	1.58	1.63	1.65	1.65	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.23
Yugoslavia	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	1.85	1.85	1.84	1.84	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-4.17
Norway	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	4.18	3.59	3.37	3.37	0.40	0.34	0.32	0.32	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-6.16
Turkey	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	1.72	1.79	1.72	1.72	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	1.41	1.43	1.43	1.43	0.66	0.63	0.63	0.63	0.93	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 8
Rye Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	10.76	10.39	10.46	10.46	2.06	2.35	2.25	2.25	22.23	24.45	23.54	23.54	0.00	0.00	-0.90	-3.69
United States	0.14	0.14	0.17	0.17	1.64	1.64	1.66	1.66	0.23	0.23	0.27	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.05	21.24
Total Foreign	10.62	10.25	10.29	10.29	2.07	2.36	2.26	2.26	22.00	24.22	23.27	23.27	0.00	0.00	-0.95	-3.92
FSU-12	5.96	5.67	5.58	5.58	1.51	1.94	1.73	1.73	9.00	11.02	9.67	9.67	0.00	0.00	-1.35	-12.25
Russia	4.13	4.00	4.00	4.00	1.43	1.88	1.63	1.63	5.90	7.50	6.50	6.50	0.00	0.00	-1.00	-13.33
Ukraine	0.63	0.70	0.60	0.60	1.75	1.93	2.00	2.00	1.10	1.35	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	-0.15	-11.11
Belarus	1.05	0.89	0.90	0.90	1.81	2.36	2.11	2.11	1.90	2.10	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-9.52
Baltic States	0.23	0.24	0.24	0.24	1.98	2.08	2.04	2.04	0.46	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.61
Major Exporter																
Canada	0.16	0.16	0.23	0.23	1.91	1.94	1.96	1.96	0.31	0.30	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.15	50.00
Other Foreign	4.27	4.19	4.24	4.24	2.86	2.96	2.98	2.98	12.22	12.41	12.66	12.66	0.00	0.00	0.25	2.04
Eastern Europe	2.66	2.55	2.54	2.54	2.32	2.33	2.36	2.36	6.16	5.94	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.94
Hungary	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.43	2.00	1.79	1.79	0.10	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-10.71
Poland	2.42	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.34	2.31	2.35	2.35	5.65	5.30	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.00	0.10	1.89
Czech Rep.	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.08	3.19	3.49	3.47	3.47	0.20	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-1.89
European Union	1.32	1.34	1.39	1.39	4.30	4.52	4.47	4.47	5.68	6.04	6.24	6.24	0.00	0.00	0.20	3.26
Denmark	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.08	4.76	5.39	5.00	5.00	0.34	0.45	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-11.70
France	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	4.59	4.40	4.56	4.56	0.23	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.97
Germany	0.81	0.85	0.90	0.90	5.21	5.43	5.33	5.33	4.21	4.59	4.80	4.80	0.00	0.00	0.21	4.67
Spain	0.17	0.15	0.15	0.15	1.74	1.48	1.50	1.50	0.30	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Austria	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	2.96	3.63	3.64	3.64	0.15	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-3.38
Sweden	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.04	5.52	5.17	5.00	5.00	0.18	0.15	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.02	16.67
Turkey	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	1.39	1.39	1.39	1.39	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.11	0.13	0.13	0.13	1.15	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.13	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 9

Sorghum Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	1996/97	1997/98	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	45.10	42.34	41.72	41.72	1.55	1.47	1.47	1.47	69.73	62.41	61.38	61.38	0.00	0.00	-1.03	-1.65
United States	4.82	3.80	3.22	3.22	4.24	4.37	4.30	4.30	20.40	16.59	13.84	13.84	0.00	0.00	-2.75	-16.55
Total Foreign	40.28	38.54	38.50	38.50	1.22	1.19	1.23	1.23	49.34	45.82	47.53	47.53	0.00	0.00	1.71	3.74
India	11.57	11.20	11.50	11.50	0.96	0.80	0.87	0.87	11.09	9.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	11.11
China	1.29	1.23	1.23	1.23	4.39	4.07	4.47	4.47	5.68	5.00	5.50	5.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	10.00
Mexico	2.32	1.75	2.00	2.00	2.95	3.31	3.15	3.15	6.86	5.80	6.30	6.30	0.00	0.00	0.50	8.62
Nigeria	6.45	6.50	6.60	6.60	1.02	1.08	1.05	1.05	6.60	7.00	6.90	6.90	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-1.43
Sudan	6.60	5.70	5.00	5.00	0.64	0.60	0.74	0.74	4.20	3.40	3.70	3.70	0.00	0.00	0.30	8.82
Argentina	0.68	0.79	0.75	0.75	3.70	4.71	4.00	4.00	2.50	3.70	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	-0.70	-18.92
Australia	0.56	0.56	0.60	0.60	2.15	1.89	2.00	2.00	1.21	1.07	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	0.14	12.68
Ethiopia	1.85	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.08	1.11	1.11	1.11	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Colombia	0.10	0.06	0.04	0.04	3.05	2.50	3.00	3.00	0.29	0.15	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-20.00
Venezuela	0.20	0.26	0.25	0.25	2.16	1.56	1.63	1.63	0.44	0.41	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-2.44
Egypt	0.14	0.16	0.16	0.16	4.35	4.91	4.97	4.97	0.60	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.52
Yemen	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tanzania	0.67	0.63	0.65	0.65	1.32	0.80	1.00	1.00	0.88	0.50	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.15	30.00
Niger	1.50	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.27	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.40	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.16	0.13	0.14	0.14	2.20	2.14	2.14	2.14	0.36	0.28	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.02	7.14
Thailand	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	5.58	5.77	5.78	5.78	1.00	0.98	0.97	0.97	5.60	5.67	5.62	5.62	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-0.97

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 10

Rice Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield (Rough)				Production (Milled)				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.					
	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	148.06	149.58	148.47	148.41	3.72	3.76	3.79	3.82	371.24	379.93	380.29	383.20	2.90	0.76	3.27	0.86
United States	1.25	1.13	1.23	1.23	6.30	6.86	6.61	6.61	5.63	5.45	5.84	5.84	0.00	0.00	0.39	7.19
Total Foreign	146.81	148.45	147.24	147.18	3.70	3.74	3.77	3.80	365.61	374.48	374.45	377.35	2.90	0.78	2.88	0.77
Major Exporters	23.98	24.08	24.18	24.18	2.98	2.91	2.93	2.93	45.87	44.97	45.56	45.56	0.00	0.00	0.60	1.32
Vietnam	7.12	7.05	7.10	7.10	3.76	3.87	3.80	3.80	17.68	18.00	17.80	17.80	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-1.11
Thailand	9.03	9.18	9.27	9.27	2.41	2.26	2.37	2.37	14.39	13.66	14.50	14.50	0.00	0.00	0.84	6.13
Burma	5.67	5.60	5.49	5.49	3.00	2.77	2.80	2.80	9.86	9.00	8.90	8.90	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-1.11
Pakistan	2.16	2.25	2.32	2.32	2.73	2.87	2.83	2.83	3.94	4.31	4.36	4.36	0.00	0.00	0.06	1.32
Major Importers	16.05	15.61	15.31	15.31	4.09	4.13	4.11	4.11	43.55	43.11	42.07	42.07	0.00	0.00	-1.04	-2.41
Indonesia	11.57	11.07	10.80	10.80	4.42	4.45	4.40	4.40	33.22	32.02	30.90	30.90	0.00	0.00	-1.11	-3.48
South Korea	1.06	1.05	1.05	1.05	6.05	6.85	7.01	7.01	4.69	5.32	5.45	5.45	0.00	0.00	0.13	2.44
European Union	0.36	0.41	0.41	0.41	5.54	5.94	6.19	6.19	1.23	1.58	1.67	1.67	0.00	0.00	0.09	5.76
Iran	0.57	0.60	0.60	0.60	4.08	4.00	4.00	4.00	1.55	1.60	1.60	1.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nigeria	1.70	1.66	1.65	1.65	2.22	1.96	1.87	1.87	2.26	1.95	1.85	1.85	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-5.13
Other Foreign	106.78	108.76	107.76	107.70	4.05	4.12	4.16	4.20	276.18	286.40	286.82	289.72	2.90	1.01	3.32	1.16
China	30.75	31.41	31.80	31.77	6.02	6.21	6.22	6.30	129.65	136.57	138.50	140.00	1.50	1.08	3.43	2.51
India	42.30	43.28	42.20	42.20	2.82	2.82	2.91	2.97	79.62	81.31	82.00	83.50	1.50	1.83	2.19	2.69
Bangladesh	9.94	10.41	10.62	10.62	2.67	2.72	2.58	2.58	17.69	18.88	18.23	18.23	0.00	0.00	-0.66	-3.48
Japan	2.12	1.98	1.95	1.95	6.34	6.54	6.42	6.42	9.78	9.41	9.12	9.12	0.00	0.00	-0.29	-3.08
Brazil	3.88	3.57	3.40	3.40	2.59	2.66	2.60	2.51	6.83	6.46	6.00	5.80	-0.20	-3.33	-0.66	-10.26
Philippines	3.92	3.91	3.65	3.60	2.85	2.86	2.87	2.86	7.26	7.27	6.80	6.70	-0.10	-1.47	-0.57	-7.78
Egypt	0.56	0.59	0.63	0.63	7.86	8.29	7.94	7.94	2.60	2.99	2.96	2.96	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-1.14
Taiwan	0.36	0.35	0.37	0.37	5.71	5.04	4.87	4.87	1.52	1.42	1.44	1.44	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.41
FSU-12	0.51	0.48	0.45	0.45	2.36	2.24	2.64	2.64	0.78	0.70	0.76	0.76	0.00	0.00	0.06	8.68
Russia	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	2.70	2.36	2.07	2.07	0.30	0.25	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-15.02
Australia	0.15	0.17	0.14	0.14	6.38	8.36	8.57	9.36	0.68	0.99	0.87	0.95	0.08	9.20	-0.04	-4.23
Others	12.29	12.61	12.56	12.58	2.95	3.02	3.00	3.02	19.78	20.39	20.14	20.26	0.12	0.61	-0.13	-0.63

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TABLE 11

Total Oilseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.					
	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World Total 1/	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	259.71	262.46	283.34	285.97	2.63	0.93	23.51	8.96
Total Foreign 1/	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	190.62	187.64	199.10	201.73	2.63	1.32	14.09	7.51
Copra	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.03	5.82	5.66	5.66	0.00	0.00	-0.16	-2.82
Palm Kernel	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4.98	5.31	5.38	5.39	0.01	0.20	0.08	1.54
Major Oilseeds 2/	164.65	160.63	168.13	168.28	1.52	1.56	1.62	1.63	249.70	251.33	272.30	274.92	2.62	0.96	23.59	9.39
United States 2/	33.57	32.58	35.66	35.66	2.06	2.30	2.36	2.36	69.10	74.83	84.24	84.24	0.00	0.00	9.42	12.59
Foreign Oilseeds 2/	131.08	128.05	132.47	132.62	1.38	1.38	1.42	1.44	180.60	176.51	188.06	190.68	2.62	1.39	14.17	8.03
South America	25.03	25.27	27.79	27.79	1.94	1.96	2.11	2.14	48.47	49.43	58.59	59.43	0.84	1.44	10.00	20.22
Brazil	12.19	12.61	14.04	14.04	2.05	2.18	2.25	2.25	24.99	27.45	31.53	31.53	0.00	0.00	4.07	14.83
Argentina	10.38	10.26	11.11	11.11	1.85	1.70	2.01	2.09	19.24	17.46	22.33	23.22	0.89	3.99	5.76	32.99
Paraguay	1.48	1.38	1.57	1.57	1.81	2.13	1.85	1.85	2.68	2.93	2.91	2.91	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-0.58
China	25.08	23.23	23.51	23.60	1.73	1.78	1.77	1.84	43.33	41.45	41.71	43.37	1.66	3.98	1.92	4.64
India	30.40	30.83	31.30	31.20	0.82	0.88	0.82	0.82	24.93	27.26	25.55	25.48	-0.07	-0.27	-1.78	-6.53
European Union	5.97	5.84	5.91	6.07	2.20	2.22	2.45	2.49	13.14	12.95	14.47	15.09	0.62	4.26	2.14	16.55
France	1.92	1.87	1.97	1.96	2.53	2.73	2.94	2.93	4.86	5.10	5.78	5.74	-0.04	-0.69	0.64	12.55
Italy	0.47	0.58	0.61	0.75	2.60	2.56	2.80	2.47	1.22	1.49	1.71	1.84	0.13	7.66	0.35	23.38
Germany	1.03	0.90	0.94	0.95	3.15	2.51	3.09	3.11	3.24	2.26	2.90	2.96	0.06	2.14	0.70	30.96
Spain	1.09	1.17	1.13	1.14	0.62	1.17	1.04	1.42	0.68	1.38	1.17	1.62	0.45	38.36	0.24	17.44
United Kingdom	0.44	0.41	0.44	0.44	3.03	3.42	3.39	3.39	1.33	1.41	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.09	6.38
FSU-12	10.09	9.85	9.53	9.47	1.12	0.86	0.95	0.92	11.28	8.44	9.10	8.68	-0.42	-4.65	0.23	2.78
Russia	4.86	4.55	4.07	4.10	0.95	0.69	0.77	0.78	4.62	3.15	3.14	3.18	0.05	1.50	0.03	0.89
Ukraine	2.04	2.15	2.24	2.24	1.42	0.99	1.04	1.04	2.90	2.13	2.33	2.33	0.00	0.00	0.20	9.38
Uzbekistan	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.47	1.34	1.57	1.25	2.20	2.01	2.35	1.88	-0.47	-20.00	-0.13	-6.65
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.55	0.45	1.22	0.58	0.73	0.89	0.55	0.26	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.14	53.85
Canada	6.14	4.35	5.90	5.90	1.43	1.68	1.52	1.52	8.80	7.28	8.97	8.97	0.00	0.00	1.68	23.09
Indonesia	1.99	1.86	1.83	1.83	1.30	1.29	1.31	1.31	2.58	2.41	2.41	2.41	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.04
Pakistan	3.54	3.73	3.45	3.45	1.14	0.99	1.03	1.03	4.03	3.68	3.57	3.57	0.00	0.00	-0.11	-2.99
Eastern Europe	3.11	3.05	2.83	2.86	1.71	1.53	1.57	1.50	5.32	4.66	4.45	4.30	-0.15	-3.48	-0.37	-7.85
Poland	0.61	0.28	0.32	0.32	2.27	1.59	1.84	1.84	1.38	0.45	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.14	31.40
Romania	0.79	0.99	0.83	0.83	1.32	1.31	1.23	1.23	1.04	1.30	1.02	1.02	0.00	0.00	-0.28	-21.22
Hungary	0.53	0.57	0.51	0.54	1.48	1.67	1.66	1.29	0.79	0.95	0.85	0.70	-0.16	-18.24	-0.25	-26.69
Turkey	1.46	1.37	1.28	1.28	1.49	1.41	1.53	1.53	2.18	1.93	1.95	1.95	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.30
Philippines	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.83	0.87	0.91	0.91	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.01	13.04
Mexico	0.52	0.38	0.41	0.41	1.33	1.42	1.55	1.55	0.69	0.55	0.63	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.08	15.20
Others	17.68	18.24	18.67	18.71	0.90	0.90	0.89	0.90	15.83	16.43	16.62	16.77	0.15	0.87	0.34	2.05

1/ Major oilseeds plus copra and palm kernel. 2/ Individual countries and regions include soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, and rapeseed.

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 12

Soybean Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.					
	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	61.69	63.15	69.39	69.41	2.03	2.08	2.20	2.23	124.96	131.64	152.60	154.69	2.09	1.37	23.05	17.51
United States	24.94	25.66	28.28	28.28	2.38	2.53	2.62	2.62	59.24	64.84	74.22	74.22	0.00	0.00	9.39	14.48
Total Foreign	36.75	37.49	41.11	41.13	1.79	1.78	1.91	1.96	65.71	66.80	78.38	80.47	2.09	2.66	13.66	20.45
Major Exporters	18.03	19.20	21.10	21.10	2.16	2.12	2.34	2.39	38.98	40.77	49.40	50.40	1.00	2.02	9.63	23.62
Brazil	10.95	11.80	13.00	13.00	2.21	2.27	2.36	2.36	24.15	26.80	30.70	30.70	0.00	0.00	3.90	14.55
Argentina	5.98	6.20	6.80	6.80	2.08	1.81	2.35	2.50	12.43	11.20	16.00	17.00	1.00	6.25	5.80	51.79
Paraguay	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.30	2.18	2.31	2.08	2.08	2.40	2.77	2.70	2.70	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-2.56
Other Foreign	18.72	18.29	20.01	20.03	1.43	1.42	1.45	1.50	26.73	26.03	28.98	30.07	1.09	3.75	4.03	15.50
China	8.13	7.47	8.25	8.25	1.66	1.77	1.67	1.78	13.50	13.22	13.80	14.70	0.90	6.52	1.48	11.20
India	4.82	5.00	5.60	5.60	0.93	0.82	0.96	0.96	4.48	4.10	5.35	5.35	0.00	0.00	1.25	30.49
Canada	0.82	0.86	1.05	1.05	2.78	2.52	2.57	2.57	2.29	2.17	2.70	2.70	0.00	0.00	0.54	24.71
Indonesia	1.28	1.18	1.15	1.15	1.19	1.19	1.22	1.22	1.52	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eastern Europe	0.17	0.20	0.16	0.16	1.73	1.69	2.18	2.18	0.29	0.34	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.01	3.78
European Union	0.29	0.34	0.42	0.46	3.23	3.39	3.38	3.44	0.94	1.14	1.43	1.57	0.14	9.79	0.43	37.24
FSU-12	0.55	0.55	0.45	0.47	0.66	0.62	0.62	0.73	0.36	0.34	0.28	0.34	0.06	21.51	0.00	0.30
Russia	0.49	0.49	0.39	0.40	0.60	0.58	0.56	0.69	0.29	0.28	0.22	0.28	0.06	27.27	0.00	0.36
Ukraine	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	1.30	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mexico	0.13	0.05	0.12	0.12	1.43	1.17	1.47	1.47	0.19	0.06	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.11	186.89
Thailand	0.28	0.26	0.28	0.26	1.30	1.41	1.29	1.25	0.37	0.36	0.36	0.33	-0.04	-9.72	-0.04	-9.72
North Korea	0.32	0.33	0.33	0.33	1.25	1.23	1.08	1.08	0.40	0.40	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-12.50
Japan	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.72	1.71	1.71	1.71	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bolivia	0.45	0.55	0.63	0.63	2.02	1.83	2.00	2.00	0.90	1.00	1.26	1.26	0.00	0.00	0.26	26.00
South Korea	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.52	1.63	1.56	1.56	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-2.50
Colombia	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03	2.06	2.00	1.67	1.67	0.07	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-28.57
Others	1.28	1.31	1.36	1.36	0.90	0.88	0.88	0.89	1.15	1.15	1.19	1.21	0.02	1.84	0.06	5.65

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 13

Cottonseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.					
	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	35.88	33.78	33.43	33.37	1.00	1.02	1.01	1.02	35.93	34.36	33.91	33.96	0.05	0.15	-0.39	-1.14
United States	6.48	5.21	5.37	5.37	0.96	1.24	1.17	1.17	6.21	6.48	6.29	6.29	0.00	0.00	-0.19	-2.93
Total Foreign	29.41	28.57	28.06	28.00	1.01	0.98	0.98	0.99	29.72	27.88	27.62	27.67	0.05	0.19	-0.20	-0.73
China	5.42	4.72	4.50	4.50	1.58	1.60	1.72	1.84	8.58	7.56	7.72	8.28	0.56	7.25	0.72	9.52
FSU-12	2.57	2.52	2.58	2.48	1.28	1.08	1.22	1.08	3.30	2.71	3.16	2.69	-0.47	-14.90	-0.03	-1.00
Uzbekistan	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.47	1.34	1.57	1.25	2.20	2.01	2.35	1.88	-0.47	-20.00	-0.13	-6.65
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.55	0.45	1.22	0.58	0.73	0.89	0.55	0.26	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.14	53.85
India	9.06	9.17	9.00	9.00	0.62	0.64	0.53	0.54	5.65	5.88	4.80	4.83	0.03	0.62	-1.05	-17.86
Pakistan	3.05	3.20	2.90	2.90	1.17	0.99	1.05	1.05	3.57	3.18	3.05	3.05	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-4.06
Brazil	1.13	0.70	0.92	0.92	0.58	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.66	0.49	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.16	32.65
Turkey	0.76	0.74	0.70	0.70	1.68	1.58	1.55	1.55	1.28	1.18	1.09	1.09	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-7.66
African Franc Zone	1.61	1.91	2.06	2.13	0.74	0.72	0.75	0.75	1.19	1.38	1.53	1.59	0.06	3.91	0.21	15.43
Australia	0.30	0.40	0.43	0.43	1.98	2.18	2.09	2.09	0.60	0.86	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.04	4.65
Egypt	0.31	0.39	0.36	0.36	1.27	1.52	1.33	1.33	0.39	0.59	0.48	0.48	0.00	0.00	-0.11	-18.64
Argentina	0.96	0.88	0.80	0.80	0.78	0.64	0.73	0.59	0.74	0.56	0.58	0.47	-0.11	-18.97	-0.09	-16.07
Paraguay	0.31	0.11	0.20	0.20	0.60	0.64	0.60	0.60	0.19	0.07	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.05	79.10
Greece	0.44	0.42	0.39	0.39	1.52	1.13	1.49	1.52	0.67	0.48	0.58	0.59	0.01	2.41	0.12	25.05
Syria	0.20	0.22	0.25	0.25	2.28	2.39	2.82	2.82	0.45	0.53	0.71	0.71	0.00	0.00	0.18	34.29
Mexico	0.32	0.25	0.20	0.20	1.31	1.50	1.65	1.65	0.42	0.37	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-10.60
Colombia	0.11	0.09	0.06	0.06	1.25	1.24	1.13	1.13	0.14	0.11	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-37.61
Sudan	0.22	0.28	0.27	0.27	1.13	0.82	0.79	0.79	0.25	0.23	0.21	0.21	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-8.70
Others	2.64	2.60	2.44	2.41	0.63	0.66	0.68	0.67	1.67	1.72	1.66	1.62	-0.03	-1.93	-0.09	-5.36

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 14

Peanut Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.					
	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	21.82	21.74	22.35	22.34	1.30	1.37	1.28	1.28	28.40	29.80	28.60	28.65	0.05	0.16	-1.16	-3.88
United States	0.61	0.56	0.57	0.57	2.56	2.98	2.81	2.81	1.57	1.66	1.60	1.60	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-3.43
Total Foreign	21.21	21.18	21.78	21.77	1.27	1.33	1.24	1.24	26.83	28.14	27.00	27.04	0.05	0.17	-1.10	-3.91
China	3.81	3.62	3.74	3.72	2.68	2.80	2.58	2.59	10.20	10.14	9.62	9.65	0.03	0.31	-0.49	-4.83
India	7.80	7.81	8.10	8.10	0.95	1.15	0.99	0.99	7.40	9.02	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	-1.02	-11.35
Indonesia	0.69	0.66	0.66	0.66	1.53	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.06	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Senegal	0.88	0.92	0.79	0.79	0.94	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.83	0.65	0.55	0.55	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-14.86
Burma	0.50	0.52	0.53	0.53	1.01	1.10	1.11	1.11	0.50	0.57	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.02	3.87
Sudan	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Zaire	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.80	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.58	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Argentina	0.24	0.28	0.41	0.41	1.93	1.09	1.83	1.83	0.46	0.30	0.75	0.75	0.00	0.00	0.45	150.00
Nigeria	1.77	1.83	2.00	2.00	0.89	0.94	0.88	0.88	1.58	1.72	1.75	1.75	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.57
Vietnam	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	1.28	1.31	1.31	1.31	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.14	0.10	0.06	0.06	1.43	1.47	1.45	1.64	0.19	0.14	0.08	0.10	0.02	21.25	-0.04	-30.71
Thailand	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.52	1.49	1.50	1.50	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-1.32
Burkina Faso	0.26	0.25	0.24	0.24	0.82	0.80	0.83	0.83	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brazil	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09	1.93	1.55	1.67	1.67	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.01	8.70
Central African Rep.	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.95	0.94	1.00	1.00	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.01	9.89
Cameroon	0.35	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.29	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.10	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.58
Cote d'Ivoire	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	1.05	1.07	1.04	1.04	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-3.33
Mexico	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.08	1.26	1.40	1.50	1.50	0.08	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.01	7.14
Gambia	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.96	0.72	0.85	0.85	0.08	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.02	39.13
Others	2.69	2.68	2.72	2.72	0.86	0.85	0.84	0.84	2.32	2.27	2.29	2.28	-0.00	-0.00	0.01	0.57

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 15

Sunflowerseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.					
	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	20.84	19.80	19.74	19.82	1.24	1.21	1.19	1.19	25.89	23.91	23.44	23.68	0.24	1.01	-0.23	-0.97
United States	1.36	1.01	1.15	1.15	1.33	1.61	1.48	1.48	1.82	1.63	1.71	1.71	0.00	0.00	0.08	4.92
Total Foreign	19.47	18.79	18.59	18.66	1.24	1.19	1.17	1.18	24.07	22.28	21.73	21.97	0.24	1.09	-0.31	-1.40
FSU-12	6.56	6.48	6.17	6.26	1.13	0.80	0.88	0.87	7.38	5.18	5.43	5.46	0.03	0.57	0.29	5.52
Russia	4.10	3.89	3.50	3.58	1.02	0.71	0.80	0.79	4.20	2.77	2.80	2.83	0.03	1.11	0.07	2.39
Ukraine	2.00	2.11	2.20	2.20	1.43	0.99	1.05	1.05	2.85	2.10	2.30	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.20	9.52
Argentina	3.20	2.90	3.10	3.10	1.75	1.86	1.61	1.61	5.60	5.40	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	-0.40	-7.41
European Union	2.39	2.35	2.28	2.33	1.34	1.65	1.64	1.77	3.21	3.89	3.73	4.14	0.41	11.02	0.26	6.62
France	0.98	0.92	0.90	0.90	1.95	2.19	2.35	2.30	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.06	-0.04	-1.90	0.06	3.00
Spain	0.98	0.99	0.96	0.97	0.59	1.15	0.94	1.41	0.58	1.14	0.90	1.37	0.47	51.89	0.23	20.12
Italy	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.30	2.00	1.99	2.00	1.67	0.50	0.52	0.52	0.51	-0.01	-2.12	-0.01	-2.68
Eastern Europe	1.95	2.14	1.91	1.93	1.42	1.42	1.35	1.25	2.76	3.04	2.58	2.42	-0.15	-6.02	-0.62	-20.47
Hungary	0.49	0.48	0.42	0.45	1.49	1.68	1.67	1.22	0.73	0.80	0.70	0.55	-0.15	-22.14	-0.26	-31.88
Romania	0.72	0.91	0.77	0.77	1.30	1.30	1.17	1.17	0.93	1.18	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	-0.28	-23.73
Yugoslavia	0.19	0.23	0.20	0.20	1.76	1.87	1.65	1.65	0.33	0.43	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-23.26
Bulgaria	0.49	0.45	0.45	0.45	1.33	1.09	1.11	1.11	0.65	0.49	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.04
Czech Rep.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	1.79	1.95	2.24	2.24	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.01	20.51
China	0.81	0.69	0.67	0.67	1.56	1.92	1.79	1.79	1.27	1.33	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-9.43
India	2.17	2.00	2.20	2.10	0.65	0.66	0.68	0.67	1.40	1.32	1.50	1.40	-0.10	-6.67	0.08	6.46
Turkey	0.63	0.55	0.50	0.50	1.20	1.09	1.44	1.44	0.75	0.60	0.72	0.72	0.00	0.00	0.12	20.00
South Africa	0.61	0.46	0.50	0.51	1.24	0.97	1.00	1.08	0.76	0.45	0.50	0.55	0.05	10.00	0.10	22.22
Australia	0.07	0.14	0.11	0.11	1.19	1.21	1.05	1.05	0.09	0.17	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-29.52
Burma	0.18	0.22	0.24	0.24	0.65	0.73	0.75	0.75	0.12	0.16	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.02	11.80
Others	0.91	0.86	0.91	0.91	0.82	0.88	0.86	0.86	0.74	0.76	0.78	0.78	0.00	0.00	0.02	2.23

June 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 16

Rapeseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.					
	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	24.42	22.16	23.22	23.33	1.41	1.43	1.45	1.45	34.52	31.62	33.75	33.94	0.19	0.57	2.32	7.34
United States	0.18	0.14	0.28	0.28	1.43	1.55	1.47	1.47	0.25	0.22	0.42	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.20	89.95
Total Foreign	24.25	22.02	22.93	23.05	1.41	1.43	1.45	1.45	34.27	31.40	33.33	33.53	0.19	0.58	2.12	6.76
India	6.55	6.86	6.40	6.40	0.92	1.01	0.92	0.92	6.00	6.94	5.90	5.90	0.00	0.00	-1.04	-15.01
China	6.91	6.73	6.35	6.46	1.42	1.37	1.48	1.48	9.78	9.20	9.37	9.54	0.17	1.81	0.34	3.70
Canada	5.27	3.45	4.80	4.80	1.22	1.47	1.29	1.29	6.44	5.06	6.20	6.20	0.00	0.00	1.14	22.48
European Union	2.82	2.65	2.71	2.78	2.93	2.77	3.16	3.10	8.27	7.33	8.55	8.62	0.07	0.78	1.29	17.62
France	0.85	0.87	0.97	0.97	3.20	3.32	3.51	3.51	2.70	2.87	3.40	3.40	0.00	0.00	0.53	18.47
Germany	0.97	0.85	0.90	0.91	3.21	2.52	3.11	3.14	3.13	2.15	2.80	2.87	0.07	2.39	0.72	33.35
United Kingdom	0.44	0.41	0.44	0.44	3.03	3.42	3.39	3.39	1.33	1.41	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.09	6.38
Denmark	0.15	0.11	0.11	0.10	2.05	2.37	2.76	2.82	0.31	0.25	0.29	0.29	0.00	1.03	0.04	16.73
Sweden	0.11	0.07	0.06	0.06	2.05	2.11	1.95	1.95	0.22	0.14	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-11.51
Eastern Europe	0.97	0.69	0.74	0.74	2.32	1.83	2.04	2.04	2.26	1.27	1.52	1.52	0.00	0.00	0.24	19.20
Poland	0.61	0.28	0.32	0.32	2.27	1.59	1.84	1.84	1.38	0.45	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.14	31.40
Czech Rep.	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.23	2.63	2.30	2.46	2.46	0.66	0.52	0.56	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.04	7.68
Australia	0.41	0.42	0.69	0.69	1.38	1.52	1.18	1.18	0.56	0.64	0.81	0.81	0.00	0.00	0.17	26.56
FSU-12	0.42	0.31	0.33	0.27	0.56	0.70	0.72	0.71	0.23	0.21	0.23	0.19	-0.04	-18.88	-0.02	-11.68
Russia	0.28	0.17	0.18	0.12	0.45	0.66	0.66	0.62	0.13	0.11	0.12	0.07	-0.04	-38.26	-0.04	-35.45
Pakistan	0.32	0.34	0.35	0.35	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.26	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.94
Bangladesh	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.71	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.24	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.96	0.97	0.96	0.96	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	-0.00	-0.00	0.00	0.00

June 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 17

Copra, Palm Kernel, and Palm Oil Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1997/98 Proj.					
	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
COPRA								
World	5.03	5.82	5.66	5.66	0.00	0.00	-0.16	-2.82
Philippines	1.97	2.25	2.30	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.05	2.22
Indonesia	1.46	1.93	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00	-0.23	-11.92
India	0.61	0.65	0.68	0.68	0.00	0.00	0.03	4.62
Mexico	0.22	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.48
Sri Lanka	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vietnam	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Malaysia	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-5.88
Others	0.55	0.55	0.54	0.54	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-2.01
PALM KERNEL								
World	4.98	5.31	5.38	5.39	0.01	0.20	0.08	1.54
Malaysia	2.48	2.63	2.57	2.57	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-2.24
Indonesia	1.41	1.59	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00	0.11	6.92
Nigeria	0.27	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-3.85
Cote d'Ivoire	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.78
Colombia	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.33
Thailand	0.09	0.09	0.11	0.11	0.00	1.87	0.02	16.30
Zaire	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ecuador	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.04	-0.00	-2.78	0.00	12.50
Others	0.53	0.54	0.55	0.56	0.01	1.79	0.02	3.14
PALM OIL								
World	16.17	17.43	17.49	17.40	-0.08	-0.49	-0.03	-0.19
Malaysia	8.26	9.01	8.70	8.60	-0.10	-1.16	-0.40	-4.50
Indonesia	4.85	5.30	5.50	5.50	0.00	0.00	0.20	3.77
Nigeria	0.59	0.60	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-1.67
Cote d'Ivoire	0.30	0.29	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.02	5.26
Colombia	0.39	0.41	0.44	0.44	0.00	0.00	0.03	7.32
Thailand	0.37	0.40	0.45	0.47	0.02	4.26	0.07	17.50
Zaire	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ecuador	0.22	0.20	0.23	0.23	-0.01	-2.22	0.02	12.50
Others	1.08	1.12	1.16	1.16	-0.00	-0.00	0.04	3.76

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 18

Cotton Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change In Production			
		Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.			Prel.	1997/98 Proj.					
	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	1995/96	1996/97	May	June	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Kilograms per hectare				Million 480 lb. bales				MBales	Percent	MBales	Percent
World	35.93	33.83	33.49	33.43	563	575	576	586	92.98	89.30	88.63	89.98	1.35	1.53	0.68	0.76
United States	6.48	5.21	5.37	5.37	602	792	762	762	17.90	18.94	18.79	18.79	0.00	0.00	-0.15	-0.79
Total Foreign	29.46	28.62	28.12	28.06	555	535	541	552	75.08	70.35	69.83	71.19	1.35	1.94	0.83	1.18
Major Exporters	16.64	15.83	15.73	15.70	696	663	694	713	53.19	48.19	50.13	51.46	1.33	2.64	3.26	6.77
China	5.42	4.72	4.50	4.50	879	890	953	1,021	21.90	19.30	19.70	21.10	1.40	7.11	1.80	9.33
Pakistan	3.05	3.20	2.90	2.90	586	497	526	526	8.20	7.30	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-4.11
Sudan	0.22	0.28	0.27	0.27	485	358	329	329	0.49	0.46	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-13.04
Turkey	0.76	0.74	0.70	0.70	1,125	1,054	1,026	1,026	3.91	3.60	3.30	3.30	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-8.33
FSU-12	2.57	2.52	2.58	2.48	699	564	618	638	8.26	6.51	7.33	7.28	-0.05	-0.68	0.77	11.83
Uzbekistan	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	833	689	784	784	5.74	4.75	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.00	0.65	13.68
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.55	0.45	556	310	356	411	1.15	0.64	0.90	0.85	-0.05	-5.56	0.21	32.81
Other	0.62	0.57	0.53	0.53	479	432	420	420	1.37	1.12	1.03	1.03	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-8.04
Egypt	0.31	0.39	0.37	0.37	774	882	902	902	1.09	1.57	1.55	1.55	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-1.15
African Franc Zone	1.61	1.91	2.06	2.13	424	418	440	442	3.14	3.67	4.15	4.33	0.18	4.22	0.66	17.98
Southern Hemisphere	2.70	2.08	2.35	2.35	499	607	621	602	6.20	5.79	6.70	6.50	-0.20	-2.99	0.71	12.30
Argentina	0.96	0.88	0.80	0.80	437	369	381	327	1.93	1.49	1.40	1.20	-0.20	-14.29	-0.29	-19.62
Australia	0.30	0.40	0.43	0.43	1,425	1,537	1,570	1,570	1.97	2.79	3.10	3.10	0.00	0.00	0.31	11.19
Brazil	1.13	0.70	0.92	0.92	345	407	426	426	1.79	1.30	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.50	38.46
Paraguay	0.31	0.11	0.20	0.20	355	429	435	435	0.51	0.21	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.19	93.24
Major Importers	0.54	0.55	0.55	0.55	939	745	885	885	2.32	1.88	2.25	2.25	0.00	0.00	0.37	19.67
Other Foreign	12.28	12.24	11.84	11.80	347	361	321	322	19.57	20.28	17.45	17.48	0.03	0.15	-2.80	-13.81
India	9.06	9.17	9.00	9.00	317	328	271	271	13.20	13.81	11.20	11.20	0.00	0.00	-2.61	-18.88
Others	3.22	3.07	2.84	2.80	432	459	479	488	6.37	6.47	6.25	6.28	0.03	0.43	-0.20	-3.01

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TABLE 19

The table below presents a 17-year record of the differences between the June projection and the final estimate. Using world wheat production as an example, changes between the June projection and the final estimate have averaged 16.5 million tons (3.1 percent) and ranged from -31.9 to 29.6 million tons. The June projection has been below the final 10 times and above the final 7 times.

RELIABILITY OF PRODUCTION PROJECTIONS

COMMODITY AND REGION	PROJECTION AND FINAL ESTIMATES, 1981/82 - 1996/97 1/					
	Difference		Lowest	Highest	Below	Above
	Average	Average	Difference		Final	Final
	Percent	---Million metric tons---			Number of years 2/	
WHEAT						
World	3.1	16.5	-31.9	29.6	10	7
U.S.	4.8	3.0	-7.4	8.4	9	8
Foreign	3.2	14.7	-26.2	28.2	9	8
COARSE GRAINS 3/						
World	3.1	24.1	-31.4	76.0	8	9
U.S.	12.3	24.5	-35.9	70.3	7	10
Foreign	2.1	12.2	-28.9	28.6	7	10
RICE (Milled)						
World	2.4	8.0	-21.8	11.4	13	4
U.S.	6.3	0.3	-1.1	0.5	10	7
Foreign	2.5	8.0	-21.9	11.2	13	4
SOYBEANS						
World	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
U.S.	8.2	4.4	-11.3	12.0	10	7
Foreign	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
		---Million 480-lb. bales---				
COTTON						
World	4.8	3.9	-13.9	11.4	10	6
U.S.	9.0	1.3	-2.8	3.1	8	9
Foreign	4.8	3.2	-12.4	10.5	9	8
UNITED STATES		*-------Million bushels-------*				
CORN	15.3	1,025	-3,327	2,379	8	9
SORGHUM	15.4	109	-228	171	9	8
BARLEY	9.9	40	-73	206	7	10
OATS	18.3	52	-77	231	4	13

1/ The final estimate for 1981/82-1996/97 is defined as the first November estimate following the marketing year.

2/ May not total 17 if projection was the same as the final.

3/ Includes corn, sorghum, barley, oats, rye, millet, and mixed grain.

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

WORLD AGRICULTURAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

June 12, 1998

USDA/OCE - World Agricultural Outlook Board
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

1 - CANADA
In late May and early June, freezing temperatures affected most Prairie growing districts. Damage was reportedly light, although some canola fields may need to be replanted. Long-term dryness remains a concern at many locations in Alberta and Saskatchewan, although the recent coolness and scattered light showers have stabilized emerged crops. Spring plantings finished ahead of schedule in the Prairies and Ontario.

2 - UNITED STATES
Record heat baked the southern Plains in early June, accelerating winter grain maturity. In addition, increasing dryness stressed dryland crops. Unseasonably low temperatures across the northern Plains and northern Corn Belt slowed crop development. Corn and soybeans were planted ahead of the normal pace. Cool, damp weather hampered fieldwork in California, while dryness stressed crops in Florida.

3 - SOUTH AMERICA
Drier May weather eased wetness in northern Argentina, southern Paraguay, and extreme southern Brazil. Drier weather also favored summer crop harvesting across central Argentina and coffee maturation in Minas Gerais, Brazil.

4 - EUROPE
In May, below-normal precipitation and above-normal temperatures prevailed in Scandinavia and most of northern Europe, helping summer crop planting and promoting winter grain development. The dryness in Germany stressed crops grown on lighter soils. Unseasonable rains in Spain hampered wheat harvesting but favored summer crop development.

5 - FSU-WESTERN
Weather conditions were mostly favorable for winter grain development and spring crop planting. The exception was in southeastern areas of Russia where below-normal precipitation caused a reduction in soil moisture.

6 - FSU-NEWLANDS
A late arrival of spring warmth along with widespread rain the first half of May caused significant planting delays in Russia and Kazakstan. Since May 20, rapid warming was accompanied by a drying trend in these areas, allowing spring grain planting to rapidly advance to completion. However, the warm, dry weather reduced topsoil moisture needed for germination.

7 - SOUTH ASIA
The southwest monsoon is becoming established over southern India, but pre-planting moisture has so far been limited. Heavy rainy centered over Bangladesh continues to hamper rice planting. Out west, the deadly cyclone that struck Gujarat came between crop seasons and had no direct effect on the region's agriculture.

8 - EASTERN ASIA
Above-normal rain continued aross the North China Plain during May, benefiting vegetative summer crops, but slowing winter wheat harvesting. Near-normal May rainfall increased moisture supplies for summer crops in Manchuria and rice in southern China. Near- to above-normal rainfall favored rice and grains across the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

9 - SOUTHEAST ASIA
Seasonal May rainfall favored rice across most of Indochina and the Philippines. In early June, drier weather reduced moisture supplies in southern Vietnam and the western Philippines. Near-normal rain increased moisture reserves for second-season crops in Java.

10 - AUSTRALIA
Frequent shower activity kept topsoils moist for winter grain germination, although May rainfall totaled below normal in the west and southeast. A drying trend since mid May has reduced topsoil moisture levels in southern Queensland but long-term moisture reserves should be overall favorable from the earlier beneficial rains.

(More details are available in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin. Subscription information may be obtained by calling (202) 720-7917.)

June normal crop calendar

Summer crops

Canada
Small Grains & Rapeseed: Vegetative
Corn: Planting

Europe
Corn: Silking (South) *
Small Grains: Heading *

Former Soviet Union
Corn, Sunflowers, & Sugarbeets: Vegetative
Small Grains: Heading (West) *; Vegetative (East)
Cotton: Vegetative (Central Asia)

United States
Corn, Cotton, & Sorghum: Vegetative
Soybeans: Planting
Small Grains: Heading *

China
Corn, Soybeans, & Cotton: Flowering *
Early Rice: Maturing
Single Rice: Vegetative

West Africa
Coarse Grain, Rice: Planting

South Asia
Grain, Cotton, & Oilseed: Planting

Mexico
Sorghum & Corn: Planting
Citrus & Sugarcane: Harvesting

Southeast Asia
Rice & Corn: Vegetative

East Africa
Maize, Sorghum: Reproductive* (Kenya, Ethiopia)
Grains: Planting (Sudan)
Small Grains: Planting (Ethiopia)
Belg (minor) Grains: Reproductive* (Ethiopia)

Australia
Cotton & Sorghum: Harvesting

Brazil
Citrus, Coffee, & Sugarcane: Harvesting

Argentina
Cotton & Soybeans: Harvesting

Winter crops

Former Soviet Union
Grains: Heading (North) * Filling (South)

Europe
Grains: Heading (Poland) *; Maturing (France, Hungary); Harvesting (Mediterranean)

United States
Grains: Maturing to Harvesting

Middle East & Egypt
Wheat: Harvesting

China
Grains: Harvesting

Northwest Africa
Grains: Harvesting

Mexico
Wheat: Harvesting

Brazil
Wheat: Planting to Vegetative

Southern Africa
Grains: Planting

Australia
Wheat: Planting

Argentina
Wheat: Planting

* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

July normal crop calendar

Summer crops

Canada
Small Grains: Heading *
Rapeseed: Flowering *
Corn: Vegetative

Europe
Corn: Silking (France, Hungary) *
Sunflowers: Blooming *
Small Grains: Maturing

Former Soviet Union
Corn: Silking *
Sunflowers: Blooming *
Small Grains: Filling (West) *; Heading (East)
Cotton: Flowering (Central Asia) *

United States
Small Grains: Filling to Maturing
Corn: Silking *
Soybeans: Flowering *
Sorghum: Heading *
Cotton: Blooming *

China
Corn: Silking *
Soybeans: Podding *
Cotton: Flowering *
Early Rice: Harvesting
Single Rice: Heading *
Late Rice: Planting

South Asia
Cotton, Grain, & Oilseeds: Planting / Vegetative

Mexico
Corn & Sorghum: Vegetative to Reproductive*

West Africa
Coarse Grain, Rice: Planting (Sahel); Harvesting (Coast)

East Africa
Maize, Sorghum: Rep.* - Filling (Kenya, Ethiopia)
Grains: Planting (Sudan)
Small Grains: Planting (Ethiopia)
Belg (minor) Grains: Harvesting (Ethiopia)

Southeast Asia
Rice: Heading *
Corn: Silking *

Brazil
Coffee, Citrus, & Sugarcane: Harvesting

Australia
Sugarcane: Harvesting

Winter crops

Former Soviet Union
Grains: Maturing (North); Harvesting (South)

Europe
Grains: Maturing (England, Poland); Harvest (France, Hungary)
Rapeseed: Harvesting

United States
Grains: Harvesting

Argentina / Brazil
Wheat: Vegetative

Australia
Wheat: Vegetative

* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

WEATHER BRIEFS

CHINA: TIMELY RAINFALL BENEFITS NORTH CHINA PLAIN CROPS

During April 1998, rainfall remained above normal across the North China Plain, benefitting winter wheat and germinating summer crops. Near- to slightly below-normal rainfall maintained irrigation supplies for rice across southern China. During the first week of May 1998, unseasonably moderate rainfall covered north-central China (southern Gansu eastward into Henan and southern Hebei). The rain benefitted reproductive winter wheat and germinating summer crops. In Shandong, rainfall ranged from 5 to 18 millimeters. In Manchuria, scattered light rain moistened topsoils for summer crop germination. Heavy rain erased lingering dryness in the Sichuan Basin. During May 10 - 16, light to moderate rain across the North China Plain benefitted reproductive winter wheat and germinating summer crops. In Manchuria, seasonably light rain helped offset warm weather, with highs ranging from 28 to 32 degrees C (4 to 8 degrees C above normal). Cooler weather was needed across Manchuria since rainfall is typically light during May. Moderate rain covered central and southern China, maintaining adequate moisture supplies for rice. Excessive showers caused local flooding in southeastern China (Fujian). From May 17 - 23, unseasonably heavy rain covered the North China Plain (25 to 60 millimeters), aiding filling winter wheat and germinating to vegetative summer crops. During late May, rainfall typically averages about 10 millimeters per week in this region. Rain (10 to 20 millimeters) covered Manchuria, aiding germinating summer crops. Widespread showers (25 to 100 millimeters) maintained rice irrigation supplies across central and southern China. During May 24 - 30, in the North China Plain and Yangtze Valley, drier weather favored late summer crop planting and winter wheat harvesting. Moderate rain aided germinating summer crops across Heilongjiang, Manchuria. Showers fell across southern China, maintaining irrigation supplies for rice. Torrential rain caused flooding in a limited area of southwestern Guangdong Province. From May 31 through June 6, in the North China Plain, widespread rain benefitted emerging corn, soybeans, and cotton but slowed winter wheat maturation and harvesting. The rain (10 to 50 millimeters) extended into the Sichuan Basin and the Yangtze Valley. Light rain (less than 15 millimeters) kept topsoils moist for emerging summer crops in Manchuria. Southern China received moderate showers, maintaining favorable moisture supplies for rice.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: SEASONAL SHOWERS INCREASE ACROSS THE PENINSULA

During April 1998, near- to above-normal rainfall maintained moisture supplies for main-season rice and second-season crops in southern Sumatra and Java. Drought continued across the eastern Philippines, with only minor relief during early May. Below-normal April rainfall stressed oil palm in peninsular Malaysia and rice and coffee in southern Vietnam. Seasonal showers increased moisture supplies in Thailand. During the first week of May, variable showers in Java and southern Sumatra, maintained adequate moisture supplies for main-season rice and increased supplies for second-season crops. Moderate showers eased drought across the eastern Philippines. Showers increased moisture supplies for rice transplanting across Thailand and northern Vietnam. During May 10 - 16, light to moderate showers covered most of Thailand, signaling the start of the rainy season. Showers eased dryness across southern Vietnam and eased drought in the northern and eastern Philippines. Moderate to heavy showers prevailed over peninsular Malaysia, favoring oil palm, but flooding was possible along the western coast. In Java and southern Sumatra, showers maintained adequate moisture supplies for second-season crops, as early main-season rice harvesting began. During May 17 - 23, moderate showers covered most of Thailand, increasing moisture supplies for main-season rice. Moderate to heavy showers continued to ease dryness across southern Vietnam and most of the Philippines. Showers aided oil palm across western peninsular Malaysia, but lesser amounts prevailed across the eastern peninsula. In Java and southern Sumatra, precipitation diminished across the region. Typically, the rainy season wanes across Java during May to October. During the last week of May, widespread showers covered Thailand and Vietnam, increasing moisture supplies for main-season rice. Heavy showers signaled the start of the southwest monsoon across most of the western Philippines. Showers, however, remained unseasonably light across western Mindanao. Scattered showers aided oil palm across peninsular Malaysia, but moisture is still needed across the east. From May 31 through June 6, seasonal showers covered Thailand and most of Vietnam. Sparse rainfall prevailed across southern Vietnam during the past 2 weeks, reducing moisture for coffee and rice. Mostly dry weather also reduced moisture for oil palm across the eastern Malay Peninsula. Moderate showers provided adequate moisture for oil palm in the west. Monsoonal showers lessened across the Philippines. Unseasonably heavy showers boosted irrigation supplies for second-season crops across Java.

CANADA: COLD, DRY WEATHER RESULTS IN LOCALIZED DAMAGE

During April 1998, beneficial rainfall improved planting prospects over much of Alberta and southern sections of Saskatchewan and Manitoba as Prairie-wide, above-normal temperatures warmed topsoils. Precipitation remained below normal from Alberta's northeastern crop areas to Manitoba's Interlake region, exacerbating unfavorable topsoil dryness. During the first week of May 1998, spring planting made good early progress. In the Prairies, dry mild weather continued to favor rapid fieldwork in all provinces. Moisture reserves, however, were not nearly as favorable as last season. In addition, early development was restricted by temperatures that continued to dip below freezing. During May 10 - 16, field work and crop development in the western prairies slowed due to low surface moisture and persistent cold and sometimes sub-freezing temperatures. Rain maintained generally favorable moisture levels for grain and oilseed establishment in Manitoba and improved the situation from south-central to northeastern Saskatchewan. From May 17 - 23, beneficial rain improved spring grain and oilseed prospects over sections of Alberta and Saskatchewan. The highest amounts were recorded in the southwest. In contrast, dry pockets lingered in the northwestern growing districts. The dry spell across the Prairies allowed spring plantings to approach completion at a pace well ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. However, moisture reserves were unfavorably low at many locations, and, given the unseasonably dry winter, few areas would be able to withstand a prolonged spell of heat and dryness. During May 24 - 30, temperatures fell below freezing late in the week throughout most of Manitoba and in sections of Saskatchewan, mainly in the northern and eastern agricultural districts. The duration of the freeze was reportedly sufficient to cause minor damage to emerged spring grains and oilseeds, especially in the Prairies' northeastern crop areas. Replanting in some canola fields was a possibility. The accelerated development of this season's crop and the relative lateness of the freeze combined to make this an unusual event prior to the cold outbreak. Scattered showers brought some relief to grains and oilseeds in the southern Prairie crop areas. Unfavorable dryness continued to plague the northwest. From May 31 through June 6, the cold air mass expanded westward into Alberta. Temperatures averaged 6 to 8 degrees C below normal in the eastern Prairies, where the duration of the event was the longest, and 2 to 4 degrees C below normal over much of Alberta. The lowest temperatures were recorded over western Manitoba, northeastern and southwestern Saskatchewan, and southernmost Alberta. The cold reportedly burned back spring grains and, in local areas, irreversibly damaged canola. Canola fields may be replanted with other crops. Precipitation was light in most areas, but sections of the west received well over 10 millimeters. The rainfall was especially welcomed in northwestern Prairie crop areas for germination, but long-term moisture reserves remained unfavorably low.

PRODUCTION BRIEFS

ARGENTINA: SOYBEAN OUTPUT UP ON GOOD RAINS AND INCREASED INPUTS

Argentina's 1997/98 soybean production is estimated higher this month at a record 17.0 million tons, up 1.0 million or 6 percent from last month, and up 52 percent from last year. Harvested area is forecast at a record 6.8 million hectares, up 10 percent from last year. The year-to-year increase in total soybean area is due to lower wheat area and higher expected returns for soybeans. Late harvesting of the wheat, however, delayed the planting of second-crop soybeans which are planted after winter wheat harvesting. As a result, second-crop soybeans are estimated to make up only about 30 percent of total soybean area, compared with 40 to 45 percent last year. Yield is forecast at a record 2.50 tons per hectare due to excellent weather and the higher proportion of single-crop soybeans, which have a higher yield potential than second-crop soybeans. Also, increased use of agricultural inputs and better management practices have boosted yield. This year's abundant rainfall is similar to that of 1990/91 when the previous record yield was achieved. Specifically, the main soybean-growing areas of Santa Fe and Cordoba Provinces appear to have done much better than last year, while northern Buenos Aires Province appears similar to last year. As of June 5, harvest was 86 percent complete compared with 97 percent a year ago, but dry weather since then should have allowed for good progress in harvesting the remaining crop.

CHINA: HIGHER SOYBEAN AREA AND YIELD ESTIMATED FOR 1997/98

China's 1997/98 soybean crop is estimated at 14.7 million tons, up 0.9 million or 7 percent from last month and up 11 percent from last year. The year-to-year increase was due to higher estimated planted area and record yields. A record corn harvest in 1996/97 led to lower corn prices, which encouraged farmers to shift from corn to soybeans the following year. Soybean area reached an estimated 8.3 million hectares in 1997/98, up 10 percent from last year and close to the 5-year average. Estimated yield, at 1.78 tons per hectare, is a record slightly above 1996/97. Hot, dry weather in June and July 1997 stressed soybeans and other crops in parts of the Northeast and the North China Plain. Some of the driest conditions were reported in Shandong, China's second largest soybean province. However, moderate-to-heavy rain in late-July and early-August helped alleviate the drought and prevented further crop losses. In Heilongjiang, China's largest soybean producer, summer rainfall was adequate and growing conditions were favorable.

The larger-than-expected soybean crop, weak demand for soybean products, large local stocks, and the continued arrival of imports, have caused downward pressure on the domestic soybean market. Many oilseed crushers in the Northeast have stopped operations because of poor profits, and farmers are likely to reduce soybean area in 1998/89 and shift to alternatives such as grain or horticultural products.

CHINA: 1997/98 COTTON PRODUCTION REVISED HIGHER

China's 1997/98 cotton production estimate was raised this month to 21.1 million bales (4.6 million tons), up 7 percent from last month and up 9 percent from last year. Area is estimated at 4.5 MHa, down 5 percent from last year and the lowest planted area since 1986. Estimated yield, at 1022 kg/Ha, is 13 percent higher than the previous record yield of 903 kg/Ha set in 1984/85. A record crop was harvested in Xinjiang, which has become the most important cotton-growing province in the country, accounting for almost 25 percent of China's total output. Favorable late-summer and autumn weather in central China led to very high yields in Hunan, Hubei, and other provinces in the Yangtze River basin. The impact of last summer's drought on cotton output on the North China Plain was minor. Production in Hebei, Shandong, and Henan provinces matched the good yields reported in 1996/97, but output dropped in the minor producing provinces of Shanxi, Shaanxi, and Sichuan.

China: Cotton Production

(1,000 tons)

Province	1995	1996	1997
Hebei	370	258	249
Shandong	471	372	354
Henan	770	736	790
Shanxi	91	72	44
Shaanxi	40	31	21
Gansu	23	27	34
Zhejiang	62	68	48
Anhui	301	270	301
Jiangsu	562	537	507
Hubei	586	430	581
Hunan	224	190	256
Jiangxi	119	123	132
Xinjiang	994	940	1150
Sichuan	112	123	107
Others	42	26	28
Total	4768	4203	4602
Bales (million)	21.9	19.3	21.1

Source: State Statistical Bureau

UNITED STATES: CROP CONDITION AND PROGRESS

As the month began, dry weather settled into the western Corn Belt, allowing planting activity to accelerate to a near-record pace. Farmers in the central and northern Great Plains also made rapid progress planting corn and small grains. Frequent rains in the eastern Corn Belt limited planting progress until mid-month. As farmers finished planting corn, they immediately began planting soybeans, which also progressed well ahead of the normal pace in the western Corn Belt. Crop emergence and development were aided by above-normal temperatures and timely showers.

The winter wheat crop developed ahead of normal as the month began. In the southern Great Plains, hot weather caused the crop to rapidly mature, but also caused conditions to steadily decline as the month progressed, especially in Texas. From the central Great Plains northward, above-normal temperatures, combined with timely rains, kept development well ahead of normal and conditions remained mostly good. Warm weather also promoted rapid growth in the eastern Corn Belt, but crop conditions declined slightly due to diseases caused by excessive rainfall early in the month. In Montana, excessively dry weather for most of the month caused conditions to decline.

Unlike the East, the Southwestern States recorded below-normal temperatures during most of the month, slowing many field operations. In California, farmers struggled to plant cotton and rice during brief dry periods. By month's end, most of the cotton was planted in the Southwest despite the poor planting weather. However, emergence was slow due to cool soils and crusting that occurred after frequent rains.

Cotton planting in the Mississippi Delta and Southeastern States was delayed by rains early in the month. Drier weather allowed progress to accelerate near mid-month, with many areas moving ahead of the 5-year average. Nationally, the crop was rated mostly good as the month ended, but hot, dry weather in Texas and cool, wet weather in California were detrimental to conditions in those States.

FORMER SOVIET UNION: WEATHER AND CROP DEVELOPMENTS

In crop areas west of the Urals, weather conditions in May were generally favorable for winter grain development and spring crop planting. Near- to above-normal precipitation maintained adequate moisture for crops in Ukraine, most of Russia, the Baltics, Belarus, and Moldova. The precipitation that fell during the month was interrupted by periods of dry weather, helping spring grain and summer crop planting. Well-below-normal precipitation in southeastern Russia (extreme eastern North Caucasus and the lower Volga Valley) in May caused a reduction in soil moisture. Monthly temperatures averaged near normal during May in most areas, allowing crops to grow and develop at a normal rate. Winter grains entered the heading stage in Ukraine and southern Russia during the month, and were progressing through the jointing stage farther north in the Baltics, Belarus, and northern Russia. There was a brief episode of unusual cold that occurred in most areas from May 24-26. Lowest temperatures were observed in Lithuania, where minimum temperatures fell at or below freezing (0 to -1 C) on May 25. Overall, the freeze was not severe enough to threaten grain crops but may have hurt tender vegetables. Since early June, scattered showers and mild weather maintained generally favorable growing conditions for crops in Ukraine, the Baltics, Belarus, and most of Russia. However, continued below normal rainfall along with hot weather in the Volga Valley stressed winter grains advancing through reproduction and lowered topsoil moisture needed for germination and early establishment of spring-sown crops.

In crop areas east of the Volga Valley, the bulk of spring grains (spring wheat, spring barley, and oats) are typically planted in May. A late arrival of spring warmth along with widespread rain the first half of May caused significant planting delays in both Russia and Kazakstan. By May 20, the progress of spring grain planting in Russia was the slowest in a decade, with reports indicating that spring grains and pulses, excluding corn, were about 40 percent planted. This compares with 60 percent on the same date the previous year. On May 20, rapid warming along with drier weather began in Russia and Kazakstan and continued throughout the rest of the month, helping spring grain planting to swiftly advance. Maximum temperatures rose into the low 30's in most of Kazakstan and adjacent areas in Russia, promoting rapid germination but reducing topsoil moisture. Since early June, warm and generally dry weather allowed spring grain sowing to progress to completion in Russia and Kazakstan. Although scattered showers recently provided some topsoil moisture for germination in these areas, additional moisture will be needed in upcoming weeks to ensure a favorable start to this year's growing season.

Tom Puterbaugh (USDA/WAOB/JAWF)

FEATURE COMMODITY ARTICLES

WORLD RAPESEED PRODUCTION

World rapeseed production for 1997/98 is estimated at 33.9 million tons, up 2.3 million or 7 percent from 1996/97, but down from the record 34.5 million produced in 1995/96. Price ratios with competing crops returned to more normal levels in 1997/98 after favoring the production of wheat and other small grains in 1996/97. Rising world demand for edible oils is helping stimulate a general trend of rising world rapeseed production. Poor weather conditions in India reduced output there.

China: China's 1997/98 rapeseed crop is estimated at 9.54 million tons, up 4 percent from last year and second only to the record crop of 1995/96. Area dropped 6 percent in 1997/98, but favorable weather boosted yields 10 percent to a record 1.5 tons per hectare. Planting conditions were excellent in fall 1996 for the 1997/98 winter rapeseed crop, and the weather was beneficial throughout the growing season.

Rapeseed output is expected to decline in 1998/99, as a lower yield offsets a moderate increase in planted area. Dry weather in the fall of 1997 adversely affected winter rapeseed planting and germination, and cold weather in March reportedly caused significant crop damage, especially in Anhui, Jiangsu, and Hunan Provinces. Unusually heavy spring rain also caused problems for the maturing crop and interfered with harvesting in some areas. The area planted to summer rapeseed (less than 10 percent of the total crop) is expected to increase in 1998/99, and yield prospects are currently normal.

Canada: Rapeseed production for 1997/98 is estimated at 6.2 million tons, up 23 percent from a year earlier, but down 4 percent from 1995/96. Weakening wheat prices in 1997 prompted Canadian growers to increase their plantings of rapeseed. Additionally, farmers had more flexibility (from a crop rotation perspective) to move into rapeseed given the much reduced area planted in 1996/97. The normal (recommended) field rotation for rapeseed is planting every four years in rotation with wheat (2 years) and barley/oats (1 year). Strong price expectations can keep canola in the same field for two, or even three years, but with increased risk of fungal diseases such as sclerotinia and blackleg, and increased chemical cost to combat the diseases.

For 1998/99, sluggish demand in world markets and poor price prospects for spring wheat are expected to result in increased plantings of rapeseed. Statistics Canada in March estimated rapeseed planting intentions 7 percent higher than seeded area in 1997/98; however, since then dry weather in the Prairie Provinces, especially in northern and central Saskatchewan, and frost have not been favorable for the crop.

India: Rapeseed production for 1997/98 is estimated at 5.9 million tons, down 15 percent from 1996/97. The lower output is attributed mostly to adverse weather during the growing season. The 1997/98 season experienced excessively heavy rains during December and January in major rapeseed growing states which coincided with flowering. In parts of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar there were damaging cyclonic storms and hail during December. The wet, cloudy conditions resulted in increased disease and insect pressures, with serious infestations reported in some locales. In the State of Uttar Pradesh, the second largest rapeseed growing state, crop damage was reported in 50 percent of the planted area. In some areas farmers abandoned their crop and replanted the fields with wheat. Some decline in area and production is reported in Rajasthan, the largest rapeseed growing state.

France: French 1997/98 rapeseed production is estimated at a record 3.4 million metric tons, up 0.5 million or 18 percent from 1996/97. Area harvested, at 1.0 million hectares for 1997/98 was also a record, up 12 percent from 1996/97 due in part to higher rapeseed prices in 1996/97. Export demand increased in 1996/97 in Poland, Denmark, and Germany which had poor harvests that year. The 1997/98 French crop overcame drought in April 1997 and excessive rain in June to yield 3.5 tons per hectare, the highest since 1987/88.

French rapeseed plantings increased for 1998/99 because of favorable prices. Overwintering conditions were favorable and widespread spring rainfall has been beneficial to the crop. Harvest normally occurs in the months of June and July.

Germany: Rapeseed production in Germany in 1997/98 suffered again from winterkill, but damage was not as widespread as the previous year and the

overall yield was above average. Output is estimated at 2.9 million tons, up 0.7 million or 33 percent from 1996/97. Yield in 1997/98 is estimated at 3.14 tons per hectare, up 25 percent from the year before when winterkill was severe.

For the 1998/99 crop, winter weather was mild and precipitation in the spring has been sufficient for the major rapeseed growing areas. Rapeseed was reportedly developing well this growing season in advance of harvest. Harvest normally occurs in June and July, but started early this year because of mild winter conditions.

United Kingdom: Production in 1997/98 is estimated at a record 1.5 million tons, up 6 percent from 1996/97 due to an area increase of 7 percent, to 0.4 million hectares. Increased plantings resulted from a lower set-aside rate (5 percent, down from 10 percent in 1996/97) and relatively high world oilseed prices in late 1996. Rapeseed yield is estimated at 3.39 tons per hectare, well above average, but short of the record 3.49 tons set in 1987/88.

For the 1998/99 crop, planted area increased 13 percent from a year earlier with most of the change coming from a shift away from barley. The increase in rapeseed area was influenced by favorable prices at planting. Rapeseed yield for 1998/99 is projected to be similar to the 1997/98 level. Crop quality is expected to be good, if favorable weather continues through the harvest.

United States: Though still a minor producer of rapeseed, the United States increased its production in 1997/98 by 90 percent, to 416,000 tons. The rise in production came from an increase in area from 142,000 hectares in 1996/97, to 283,000 in 1997/98. Yield during that period declined 5 percent, to 1.47 tons per hectare. High rapeseed prices relative to wheat plus wheat disease problems induced farmers to switch to rapeseed. North Dakota is the largest producer, with approximately 65 percent of U.S. output in 1997/98. Rapeseed has been gaining steadily in popularity over the last decade as only 17,000 hectares were harvested in 1987/88 compared to 283,000 in 1997/98. During the decade, low acid varieties have become increasingly available and potential for area expansion in Canada is limited by the crop's rotational requirements.

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TABLE 20

WORLD RAPESEED AREA

(1,000 Hectares)

	1987/88	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97 P	1997/98 F
Australia	58	43	50	73	151	108	173	343	406	420	685
Austria	23	32	35	39	47	52	58	69	89	65	54
Bangladesh	318	334	338	345	350	350	338	337	337	336	336
Belgium-Luxembourg	5	4	5	7	10	6	14	17	12	8	7
Brazil	1	1	1	1	1	1	20	20	20	20	20
Byelarus	65	68	62	49	27	29	23	34	40	45	50
Canada	2,614	3,715	2,918	2,529	3,141	3,045	4,104	5,755	5,273	3,451	4,800
Chile	60	61	32	29	32	10	15	15	18	11	15
China	5,267	4,936	4,993	5,504	6,133	5,976	5,300	5,783	6,907	6,734	6,458
Czechoslovakia	128	130	133	137	165	149	0	0	0	0	0
Czech Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	191	252	227	228
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	45	68	75	87
Denmark	250	199	231	270	280	170	164	170	152	106	104
Estonia	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	6	7	7
Ethiopia	40	45	45	43	44	44	150	150	151	152	152
Finland	81	86	74	65	61	66	69	67	75	78	62
France	740	869	633	693	739	686	565	705	845	865	970
Germany	0	0	0	0	950	1,001	1,007	1,066	974	854	914
Germany, West	428	385	429	570	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Germany, East	148	147	148	152	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hungary	54	39	52	50	65	29	23	25	30	80	80
India	4,619	4,832	4,967	5,782	6,553	6,305	6,296	6,230	6,546	6,856	6,400
Ireland	4	4	4	5	5	5	2	2	2	2	2
Italy	28	23	16	17	14	8	4	14	48	89	102
Kazakhstan, Republic of	15	59	49	35	39	72	64	85	82	78	85
Lithuania	7	9	10	10	8	7	2	12	14	15	15
Norway	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Pakistan	269	334	307	304	318	320	305	305	320	340	350
Poland	499	471	570	500	468	418	349	370	606	283	320
Russian Federation	258	382	325	258	198	154	113	147	275	167	115
Spain	8	9	12	24	12	9	13	60	80	100	53
Sweden	164	146	175	163	145	127	144	129	105	66	63
Switzerland	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	15	15	15	14
Ukraine	56	84	70	65	67	54	54	23	20	15	15
United Kingdom	388	340	323	390	439	422	374	497	439	412	442
United States	17	18	33	31	66	53	78	140	175	141	283
Yugoslavia	36	29	32	35	18	19	17	20	16	26	26
Others	89	80	38	34	26	15	14	14	16	13	12
WORLD TOTAL	16,762	17,939	17,135	18,234	20,597	19,737	20,084	22,865	24,421	22,159	23,333

P-preliminary F-forecast

June 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 21

WORLD RAPESEED YIELD

(Metric tons per hectare)

	1987/88	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97 P	1997/98 F
Australia	1.103	1.279	1.560	1.356	1.126	1.657	1.763	0.901	1.382	1.524	1.182
Austria	2.826	2.719	2.743	2.487	2.723	2.538	2.259	3.130	2.978	1.862	2.352
Bangladesh	0.698	0.620	0.642	0.661	0.657	0.657	0.722	0.709	0.709	0.732	0.732
Belgium-Luxembourg	3.000	3.250	3.000	3.000	2.800	3.167	2.857	3.000	3.333	3.250	3.286
Brazil	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Byelarus	0.723	0.853	0.806	1.408	1.148	1.207	0.913	0.559	0.625	0.667	0.700
Canada	1.423	1.135	1.100	1.291	1.345	1.272	1.335	1.257	1.221	1.467	1.292
Chile	2.050	1.852	1.250	2.000	1.781	1.900	1.800	1.800	2.056	2.727	2.133
China	1.254	1.022	1.089	1.264	1.212	1.281	1.309	1.296	1.416	1.366	1.477
Czechoslovakia	2.633	2.923	2.910	2.774	2.697	2.517	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Czech Republic	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.257	2.366	2.627	2.295	2.461
Slovakia	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.526	2.089	2.191	1.907	2.241
Denmark	2.224	2.533	2.835	2.937	2.593	2.388	2.543	2.182	2.053	2.368	2.817
Estonia	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.667	0.667	0.667	1.167	1.429	1.429
Ethiopia	0.375	0.444	0.444	0.442	0.432	0.432	0.533	0.533	0.536	0.539	0.539
Finland	1.111	1.477	1.622	1.908	1.721	1.803	1.841	1.612	1.800	1.795	1.774
France	3.574	2.649	2.761	2.795	3.072	2.638	2.743	2.553	3.195	3.318	3.505
Germany	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	3.189	2.614	2.828	2.661	3.210	2.518	3.137
Germany, West	2.956	3.158	3.382	3.018	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Germany, East	2.432	2.884	2.824	2.434	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Hungary	1.944	2.077	1.808	1.820	1.677	1.586	1.130	1.200	1.167	1.500	1.500
India	0.748	0.906	0.830	0.904	0.895	0.773	0.856	0.944	0.917	1.013	0.922
Ireland	2.250	2.250	2.250	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.500	2.500	2.500	2.500	2.500
Italy	2.429	2.217	2.500	2.588	2.571	2.375	1.500	2.000	1.750	1.101	0.873
Kazakhstan, Republic of	0.200	0.237	0.143	0.314	0.308	0.750	0.406	0.824	0.805	0.782	0.824
Lithuania	0.571	0.667	0.700	0.800	1.000	0.714	1.500	1.083	1.357	1.400	1.400
Norway	1.286	1.286	1.286	1.286	1.286	1.286	1.286	1.286	1.286	1.286	1.286
Pakistan	0.758	0.746	0.759	0.750	0.689	0.759	0.738	0.738	0.797	0.800	0.800
Poland	2.389	2.546	2.782	2.412	2.229	1.813	1.702	2.043	2.272	1.587	1.844
Russian Federation	0.729	0.699	0.822	1.000	0.914	1.071	0.850	0.830	0.455	0.659	0.617
Spain	1.250	1.222	1.500	1.250	1.417	1.333	1.308	0.883	0.688	1.110	1.415
Sweden	1.524	1.705	2.114	2.252	1.738	1.945	2.174	1.659	2.048	2.106	1.952
Switzerland	2.941	2.941	3.176	2.529	3.000	2.647	2.882	2.333	3.000	3.000	3.143
Ukraine	0.875	0.845	1.000	1.231	1.209	1.296	1.204	0.870	0.850	0.867	0.867
United Kingdom	3.487	3.059	2.950	3.077	2.961	2.725	3.037	2.612	3.030	3.422	3.394
United States	1.294	1.389	1.576	1.742	1.424	1.358	1.513	1.493	1.429	1.553	1.470
Yugoslavia	2.444	2.345	2.000	1.943	2.000	1.842	2.294	1.900	2.438	1.423	1.846
Others	1.124	1.075	1.579	1.588	1.654	1.800	1.286	1.143	1.250	1.308	1.333
WORLD TOTAL	1.389	1.262	1.282	1.378	1.372	1.283	1.334	1.328	1.413	1.427	1.455

P-preliminary F-forecast

June 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 22

WORLD RAPESEED PRODUCTION

(1,000 Metric tons)

	1987/88	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97 P	1997/98 F
Australia	64	55	78	99	170	179	305	309	561	640	810
Austria	65	87	96	97	128	132	131	216	265	121	127
Bangladesh	222	207	217	228	230	230	244	239	239	246	246
Belgium-Luxembourg	15	13	15	21	28	19	40	51	40	26	23
Brazil	1	1	1	1	1	1	20	20	20	20	20
Byelarus	47	58	50	69	31	35	21	19	25	30	35
Canada	3,720	4,218	3,209	3,266	4,224	3,872	5,480	7,233	6,436	5,062	6,200
Chile	123	113	40	58	57	19	27	27	37	30	32
China	6,605	5,044	5,435	6,958	7,436	7,653	6,940	7,492	9,777	9,200	9,540
Czechoslovakia	337	380	387	380	445	375	0	0	0	0	0
Czech Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	377	452	662	521	561
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	94	149	143	195
Denmark	556	504	655	793	726	406	417	371	312	251	293
Estonia	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	7	10	10
Ethiopia	15	20	20	19	19	19	80	80	81	82	82
Finland	90	127	120	124	105	119	127	108	135	140	110
France	2,645	2,302	1,748	1,937	2,270	1,810	1,550	1,800	2,700	2,870	3,400
Germany	0	0	0	0	3,030	2,617	2,848	2,837	3,127	2,150	2,867
Germany, West	1,265	1,216	1,451	1,720	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Germany, East	360	424	418	370	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hungary	105	81	94	91	109	46	26	30	35	120	120
India	3,455	4,377	4,125	5,229	5,863	4,872	5,390	5,884	6,000	6,942	5,900
Ireland	9	9	9	10	10	10	5	5	5	5	5
Italy	68	51	40	44	36	19	6	28	84	98	89
Kazakhstan, Republic of	3	14	7	11	12	54	26	70	66	61	70
Lithuania	4	6	7	8	8	5	3	13	19	21	21
Norway	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Pakistan	204	249	233	228	219	243	225	225	255	272	280
Poland	1,192	1,199	1,586	1,206	1,043	758	594	756	1,377	449	590
Russian Federation	188	267	267	258	181	165	96	122	125	110	71
Spain	10	11	18	30	17	12	17	53	55	111	75
Sweden	250	249	370	367	252	247	313	214	215	139	123
Switzerland	50	50	54	43	51	45	49	35	45	45	44
Ukraine	49	71	70	80	81	70	65	20	17	13	13
United Kingdom	1,353	1,040	953	1,200	1,300	1,150	1,136	1,298	1,330	1,410	1,500
United States	22	25	52	54	94	72	118	209	250	219	416
Yugoslavia	88	68	64	68	36	35	39	38	39	37	48
Others	100	86	60	54	43	27	18	16	20	17	16
WORLD TOTAL	23,290	22,632	21,959	25,131	28,265	25,327	26,802	30,375	34,519	31,620	33,941

P-preliminary F-forecast

June 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

CHART 1

World Rapeseed Area and Production

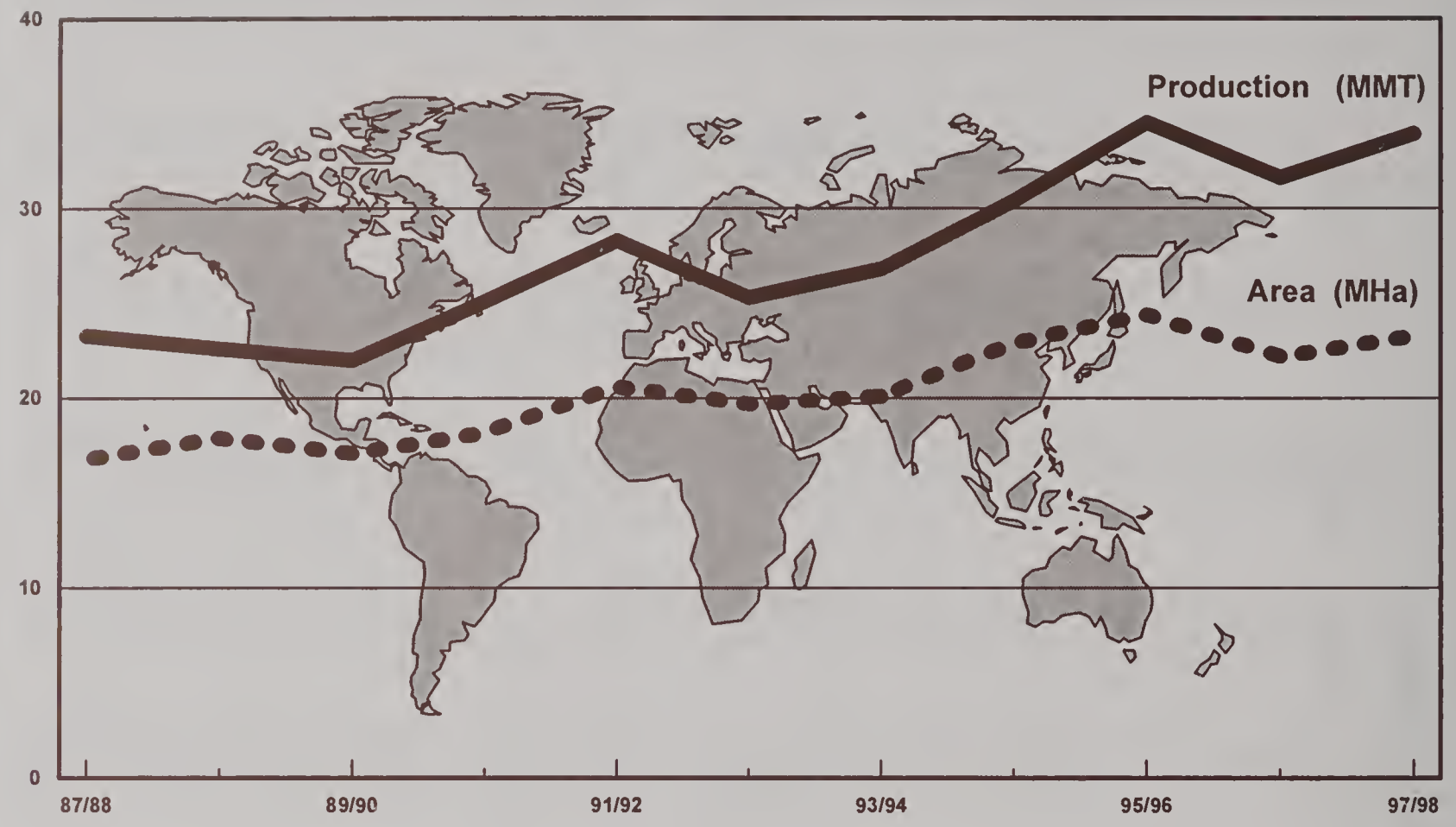
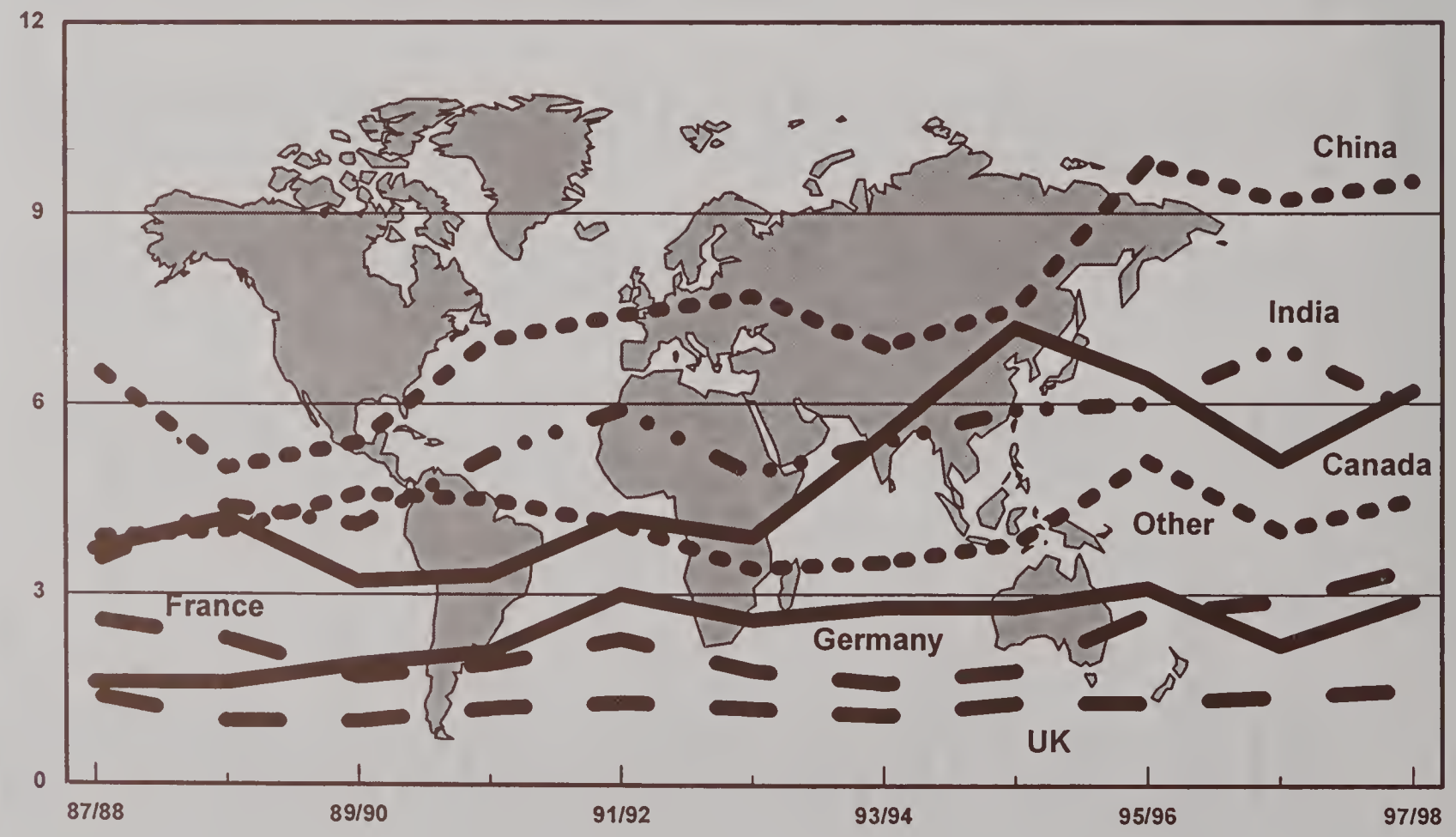


CHART 2

World Rapeseed Production

by Major Countries



June 1998 *Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS,USDA*

FOREIGN RICE CROP OUTLOOK FOR 1998/99

This article presents early indications of the 1998/99 rice crop prospects in several major countries outside the United States. Information in this article is based on field reports received from U.S. agricultural counselors/attaches stationed overseas as well as analysis from Washington, D.C.-based USDA staff. The first official USDA forecast of individual countries' area, yield, and production will be released July 10, 1998. Currently, the 1998/99 total foreign production is forecast at 381.0 million tons (milled-basis), up 3.7 million or 1 percent from 1997/98.

China: Although the Chinese government continues to strive to maintain a high level of grain production, rice area in 1998/99 is likely to be down slightly from the 31.8 million hectares harvested last season. In some provinces, area may decline as profits from grain production fall due to last summer's record harvest and subsequent low prices. The greatest reduction will be in the early-rice crop, while the northern crop, which is a premium rice, will expand slightly. Most rice is planted in the Yangtze River Valley and in southern China. Some single-crop rice is produced in the northern provinces. China produces three rice crops annually; early rice is planted in April and harvested in July; single-crop rice is planted in May and harvested in September; and, late double-cropped rice is planted in June and harvested in October. Precipitation over central and southern China has been adequate favoring the vegetative early-season rice and replenishing irrigation supplies.

India: Total rice area in India has remained relatively stable in recent years and no significant shift from this year's 42.2 million hectares is expected in 1998/99. In recent years, the increase in rice production has resulted from increased yield rather than area expansion. However, the primary determinant of production is the performance of the monsoon. Normally, planting of the rice crop begins in June, at the start of the monsoon season. More than 85 percent of the rice crop is planted during the monsoon season because the majority of the crop is not irrigated. In the three states of Punjab, Haryana, and Andhra Pradesh, over 95 percent of the rice crop is irrigated and accounts for approximately 25 percent of total production. Use of fertilizer and high-yielding varieties is extensive in these states, although, for the nation as a whole, usage is limited. Over the past 7 to 8 years, it appears that the annual marginal yield gains from better inputs have begun to slow and the intensive rice/wheat rotation is beginning to cause soil problems in northern India.

Bangladesh: Rice area in Bangladesh is projected higher than the 10.8 million hectares harvested in 1997/98. The prevailing higher prices for rice vis a vis jute, the major competing crop, is expected to increase plantings. About 70 percent of the crop is non-irrigated and dependent on the monsoon rains. Rice area has declined slightly over the last ten years due to crop diversification. Two rice crops are grown in Bangladesh: the Aus crop, which has lost nearly 1.5 million hectares over ten years; and, the Boro crop, with a gain of about 1.0 million hectares.

Pakistan: Rice area in Pakistan for 1998/99 is likely to be similar to the 1997/98 level of 2.3 million hectares. IRRI rice in Sind Province is not expected to experience pest or weather damage as occurred last year. Nearly all rice is irrigated, drawing on both surface and groundwater resources.
The government of Pakistan has been trying to increase rice production through price incentives, ensuring timely availability of inputs, and dissemination of technical knowledge among farmers. In addition, Pakistan has a producer price-support system. The 1997/98 price support for paddy rice increased 16 to 21 percent for different varieties. The 1998/99 price support levels are not expected to increase significantly because of the substantial increases in 1997/98.

Thailand: Rice area for 1998/99 in Thailand is likely to be similar to that of 1996/97 due in part to current attractive price of the main crop, especially jasmine/fragrant. For the first time, Thailand's Department of Agriculture has made two short-maturity (115 to 120 days) second-crop varieties available to farmers. These varieties are non-photo-period sensitive that can be planted at any time of the year. The current high prices should encourage farmers to take good care of their crops, which may keep yields trending higher. The main-season (rainfed) crop comprises about 85 percent of total production and is planted from May through August and harvested from mid October to late January. The second-season crop is planted in January - February and harvested from June - August.

Burma: Rice area in Burma is likely to be up from the 1997/98 level of 5.6 million hectares. Rice area in 1997/98 was negatively affected by heavy flooding during the monsoon season and a delayed second-crop

planting due to a late main-season harvest. The second crop is mostly irrigated and comprises about 20 percent of the total rice area, while 10 percent of the main crop is irrigated. Yield for the coming season will be constrained by inferior seed quality and the shortage and high price of inputs. Spring-rice planting commenced in May with the arrival of the rainy season.

Indonesia: Rice area in Indonesia is projected to expand in 1998/99 as area rebounds from the El Niño-related drought. Assuming normal rains, reservoirs are expected to be partially replenished. Although investment funds are tight, the government is expected to continue its effort to increase production by developing new rice fields in Central Kalimantan and expand the irrigation network, albeit at a reduced rate. About 55 percent of the total crop is taken off Java and nearly 25 percent off of Sumatra. Although producers are increasing their use of high yielding varieties, rising prices for inputs such as fertilizer and agricultural chemicals will be a factor in planting decisions and eventual yield. Planting of the 1998/99 crop begins in late-October.

Vietnam: Vietnam's three rice crops are expected be similar to those harvested in 1997/98. Harvested area is likely to remain unchanged as the government tries to maintain the production base in an effort to encourage exports. Actual yields will depend upon the level of input use and the performance of the monsoon rains.

Japan: Rice area in Japan is likely to decrease from the 2.0 million hectares harvested in 1997/98 as producers respond to the Government's rice diversion program. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries announced that it would expand its rice diversion program from the target of 787,000 hectares, to 963,000, in order to reduce Japan's huge domestic rice stocks (effective April 1998 - March 1999). In 1997/98, favorable weather throughout the growing season allowed the producers to harvest their third-highest- yielding rice crop.

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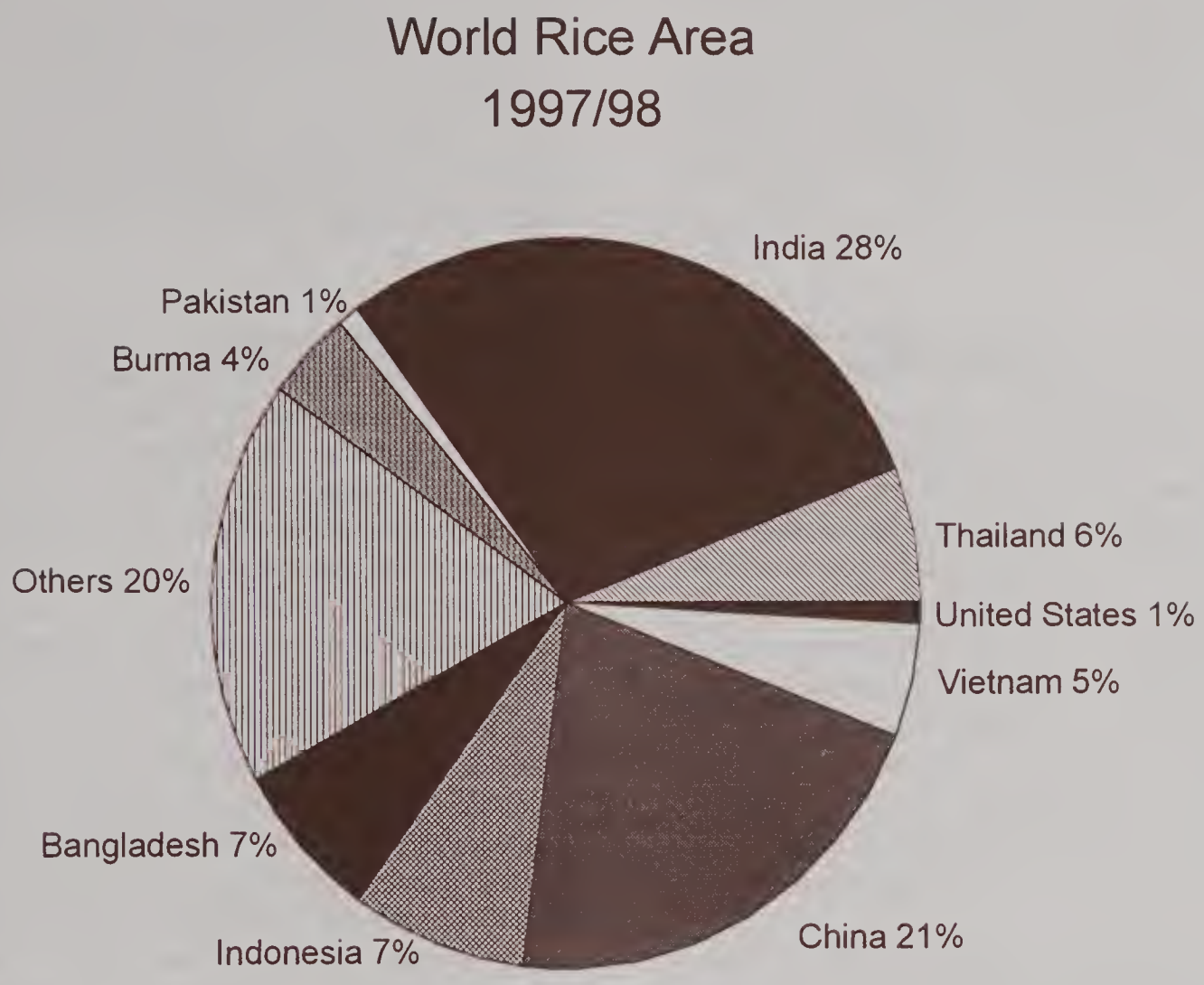
World Rice Area
1997/98
India 28%
Pakistan 1%
Burma 4%
Thailand 6%
Others 20%
United States 1%
Vietnam 5%
Bangladesh 7%
Indonesia 7%
China 21%

NORTHERN MEXICO TRIP REPORT AND CROP ASSESSMENT

A Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) analyst traveled to the southwestern United States and the Mexican state of Tamaulipas in late-March to meet with water management officials in the Rio Grande Valley and to assess crop condition and production outlook. Meetings were held with officials from the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC), Comision Nacional del Aqua (CNA), and farmers.

The IBWC exists as a result of a series of treaties between Mexico and the United States (beginning in 1848) to reach agreement on issues such as the establishment of the international boundary locations, water salinity, and erection and operation of water management systems. IBWC is unique in that it is under the direction of the two sovereign governments. The U.S. Section is an arm of the Department of State, with offices in four states, and wherever there is a U.S. Section office along an international boundary, the Mexican Section (Comision Internacional de Limits y Aquas, CILLA) generally has an office across the border. IBWC has jurisdiction for over 1,250 miles of the Rio Grande as it separates the two countries from El Paso/Ciudad Juarez to Brownsville/Matamoros.

The CNA is an arm of the Government of Mexico, with offices throughout the country. It is responsible for management and preservation of water and the infrastructure associated with it throughout the country. In Mexico, nearly all water is under federal government control, with authority flowing from the national director general down to the regional, state, and district offices. The CNA makes the final decision on the timing, purpose, and volume of water usage. This action directly effects which crops are produced in the Mexican states.

Mexican's sorghum production for 1997/98 is estimated at 5.8 million tons from 1.7 million hectares, while the 1998/99 crop is forecast at 6.3 million tons from 2.0 million hectares. Mexico is able to grow grain year-round, and the special circumstances of each region determines when a particular crop is in season. The spring/summer sorghum season contributes 70 percent of the annual production total. The spring/summer 1997 crop added with the fall/winter 1998 harvested crop is counted as USDA's 1997/98 marketing year. The spring/summer crop is planted in late-April/May, and harvested October/November in the Central Plateau states. The state of Tamaulipas devotes more acreage to sorghum than any other Mexican state, and more than 90 percent of Tamaulipas sorghum is planted in February/March and harvested June/July. Higher production farms are south of El Control, which is near the Rio Grande. Sorghum is mostly a dryland crop in Tamaulipas, the exception being those areas bordering on major irrigation sources such as the Rio Grande. The Central Plateau is more reliant upon irrigation.

Mexican cotton production for 1997/98 is estimated at 900,000 bales from 200,000 hectares, while the 1998/99 crop is forecast to be near the 1997/98 level. Cotton production in northern Tamaulipas has switched from being an irrigated crop to more dryland production in recent years, and spring/summer production has declined such that the fall/winter season provides a larger share of the state's annual total. The switch appears to have been prompted by a combination of better market prices for other commodities, the absence of a government-sponsored program that farmers feel met all their needs, and restricted water availability. Unusual weather has negatively affected fields in recent years such that it is difficult to accurately calculate overall percentages of cotton production for Tamaulipas. The spring/summer crop, planted February/June and harvested September/February, is much larger in good years than the fall/winter crop, which is planted November/February and harvested June/September. Matamoros, on the coastline, is the most productive northern region for cotton in Tamaulipas, with an area equaling the productivity further south. Corn, soybeans, and other grains are present in Tamaulipas, but in much smaller quantities than sorghum and cotton.

Rainfall was generally normal to below-normal in the months leading up to planting time in northern Tamaulipas. While there was light early-March precipitation that spurred some farmers to plant, the soil by late-March was dry to a depth of a half-inch or more. The absence of moisture reserves in the soil and limited water availability from CNA made the timely arrival of seasonal rains a priority for farmers in this region. Sorghum was thought to be the best chance for farmers to break even if below-normal moisture conditions persisted. Alternatively, cotton was said to be less attractive because of the need for moisture at specific times during plant development, and the less than favorable market conditions. Soil condition steadily deteriorated after early March. Rainfall was

sparse during April and May, and the seasonal showers that normally arrive from the south by late-May were delayed over Central America.

According to IBWC statistics, average rainfall for northern Tamaulipas from January through March is less than 5 inches in most years, and less than 12 inches from April through July. Farmers were in a positive mind set about the 1998 spring/summer season despite having received little rainfall this year.

A successful crop season always depends upon the availability of water, and the ability of the plant varieties to endure the summer heat. A single release of water for agricultural purposes was announced by CNA for mid-April, and subsequently did take place, starting on April 15 from Falcon Dam. For northeast Tamaulipas farms, the Anzalduas Canal near Reynosa was the diversion point, and the discharge continued from the Rio Grande into Anzalduas until May 20.

1998/99 ESTIMATES FOR SELECTED MEXICAN CROPS

	Area (Mha)	Yield (MT/Ha)	Production (MMT)	5-Year Avg. (MMT)	Record (MMT)
Corn	8.00	2.38	19.00	18.30	19.50
Sorghum	2.00	3.15	6.30	4.31	6.86
Wheat	0.83	4.34	3.60	3.59	4.50

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FSU TRIP REPORT: 1997/98 GRAIN QUALITY IN RUSSIA AND UKRAINE

Analysts from USDA/FAS traveled to Russia and Ukraine from April 11 to May 1, 1998 to examine the problem of low 1997/98 grain quality. The team met with researchers, republic- and oblast-level officials, crop forecasters, and independent agricultural observers in Moscow, Kiev, and western Ukraine. These interviews and meetings with FAS personnel in Moscow and Kiev yielded the following information on 1997/98 grain quality, the prospects for improvement in quality for 1998/99, and 1998/99 winter-grain production prospects.

Low grain quality is arguably the most critical problem facing grain producers in the former Soviet Union. Although 1997/98 grain production in Russia and Ukraine rebounded significantly from the previous year, a substantial portion of the wheat crop did not meet the minimum standards for milling-grade wheat. In Russia's Volga Valley, three-fourths of the bumper wheat crop was unfit for human consumption. In Rostov oblast, situated in Russia's prime winter-wheat zone, over 80 percent of the 1997/98 grain crop suffered from insect damage resulting from inadequate pest control. In Ukraine, 80 percent of the 1997/98 wheat crop was graded as fifth class—the lowest class, suitable only for feed and industrial use. According to the U.S. Agricultural Minister-Counselor in Moscow, grain quality remains low in most territories, and production increases will not compensate for a loss in quality.

The poor quality of the 1997/98 crop was due in large part to unfavorable weather. Throughout the winter-wheat region of Russia and Ukraine, June precipitation ranged from two to four times above normal. This unusually wet weather during the grain-fill stage resulted in plump, starchy kernels with low gluten content. The amount of gluten in the kernel determines the grain's protein content. Unfavorable weather returned during October in eastern Ukraine and southern Russia—again, from two to four times the normal amount—delaying harvest and further reducing gluten content.

Unfavorable weather was the main reason, but not the only reason, for the sharply reduced quality of the 1997/98 crop. The agricultural sector continues to struggle with severe financial constraints which restrict the use of critical inputs. High gluten content depends on adequate nitrogen fertilization, but soil fertility has been depleted following a seven-year decline in fertilizer use and application rates remain far below State-recommended levels. According to the U.S. agriculture counselor in Kiev, 1.2 million tons of mineral fertilizers will be supplied to Ukrainian farmers this year against the recommended amount of 6.5 million, marking the second consecutive year that fertilizer application will reach only 20 percent of the target dose. The use of plant-protection chemicals has also fallen. In 1997, for example, Russian farms were able to purchase only one-quarter of the necessary amounts of insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides. One of the reasons for the cash shortfall preventing proper fertilizer and pesticide use this year, ironically, is last year's relatively abundant grain harvest. The 30-40 percent increase in 1997/98 grain output in Russia and Ukraine led to a decrease in prices and lower income for producers. As a result, many farms were unable to repay debts owed to Western chemical suppliers, who manufacture the majority of plant-protection chemicals used in the former Soviet Union.

Discussions with some agricultural officials and independent analysts in Russia indicate that regional differences in grain quality have emerged, depending on the financial situation of the farms within the region. In 1997, quality in Krasnodar and Stavropol oblasts (in the North Caucasus region) was better than in 1996 due in part to greater financial support from State and regional authorities. When faced with an outbreak of the insect pest *Diabrotica euregasta* in 1996, farms in Krasnodar Kray sprayed insecticides in the forests where the pest over-wintered. Meanwhile, farms in neighboring Rostov oblast lacked funds to obtain adequate plant-protection chemicals to combat the problem. As a result, over 80 percent of the 1997/98 Rostov grain crop suffered insect damage while damage in adjacent Krasnodar was limited to 45 percent.

The jump in the price of inputs in the early 1990's sparked a renewed interest in wheat varieties that are designed to provide acceptable yield under less-intensive management—the so-called "plastic" varieties. Many farmers, however, are unable to afford certified seed year after year, and plant non-certified seed reserved from the previous year's harvest with a predictable loss in yield and quality.

The deteriorating state of agricultural equipment has also played a role in reducing grain quality. A senior Ukrainian agricultural expert described the problem in the following terms: in 1990 there were 120,000

combines on Ukrainian farms, and each combine was expected to harvest roughly 80 hectares of grain per day. By 1997, the number of harvesters had fallen to 80,000, and nearly half of those machines were not fully operational due to a lack of spare parts. As a result, the "hectares-per-combine" ratio had ballooned to 150, and the overall condition of the machinery was substantially worse. Ten years ago, the winter-grain harvest in Ukraine typically could be completed in 20 days, barring unusually wet weather. Harvest now requires 50-60 days, increasing the likelihood of quality-damaging rain prior to completion of harvest.

Further exacerbating the quality issue in 1997 was the problem of grain storage. Farms typically store most of their output at State elevators, but faced with relatively low prices and high storage fees in 1997 many farms elected to store grain themselves. Inadequate on-farm drying and storage facilities contributed to high waste. According to a Ukrainian agricultural analyst, 10-15 percent of stored grain sprouted, compared to an average of 4 percent, because it was stored too moist.

The prospects for increased use of fertilizer and plant-protection chemicals in 1998 are mixed. In Russia, on-farm supplies of mineral fertilizers for 1998 were down 30 percent from last year, but supplies of plant-protection agents were up 35 percent, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. In Ukraine, reports from the Ministry of Agriculture indicated that fertilizer use will increase 2-3 times from last year's levels. Other observers are less optimistic, suggesting that application rates will remain stable. Pesticide application, however, could drop by as much as 15 percent from 1997 levels, according to independent analysts in Kiev. Although grain quality for 1998/99 is almost certain to improve from last year's extremely low level because of the likelihood of more favorable weather, most observers agree that every step in the grain-production process—the poor-quality seed used for planting, the lack of fertilizers and plant-protection agents, the decrepit machinery, and inefficient storage methods—will seriously hamper progress in the drive to increase production of food-grade wheat in Russia and Ukraine.

Winter-grain conditions were generally favorable while the team was conducting crop-assessment travel, and conditions remained favorable through late-May. In Russia, sown 1998/99 winter-grain area was approximately the same as last year at 13.0 million hectares. Cold, wet weather in late-March and early-April slowed crop development, but crops reached normal development by late-April following a warming trend. On-farm supplies of fertilizers were down from last year, and nitrogen top-dressing of winter grains proceeded at a slower pace, due in part to fuel shortages. In Ukraine, sown 1998/99 winter-grain area totaled 6.9 million hectares, down from 7.5 million in 1997/98. Despite below-average winterkill, adequate soil moisture, relatively good spring weather, and official reports of increased use of mineral and organic fertilizer, Agroresources (the main Ukrainian crop-forecasting agency) predicts that winter-wheat yields will barely surpass last year's level because of below-optimal use of fertilizers and pesticides.

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MEXICO OILSEEDS PRODUCTION

Production of oilseeds in Mexico for 1997/98 is estimated at 843,000 tons, an 11-percent increase over 1996/97. Mexican oilseeds production includes soybeans, cottonseed, peanuts in the shell, sunflowerseed, copra, and palm kernel. Mexico also will produce an estimated 16,000 tons of palm oil in 1997/98. Excluding copra and palm oil, area is projected to increase 8 percent to an estimated 405,000 hectares. The recovery of Mexico's oilseed industry since the mid-1990s drought has encountered several impediments, including unattractive international prices, the vagaries of weather, and government support programs that some farmers say are inadequate. The situation should continue to improve in 1998/99, assuming normal weather, but some difficulties remain.

Mexican oilseed growers have found it increasingly difficult to maintain their traditional markets. The Mexican livestock industry has not been as good as had been hoped for oilseed meals. Cattlemen are beset by the same weather problems as crop producers, and while the hog and poultry industries continue to expand, their growth is expected to moderate in 1998/99. Soybeans are predominately an irrigated crop in Mexico, which has placed it at a competitive disadvantage to more drought-tolerant crops such as sorghum. Cottonseed output has been hurt by low prices, and the fledgling palm oil program will have to survive amid government efforts at fiscal restraint. The peanut industry has a window of opportunity to offset weather-impacted U.S. production, but it must first overcome weather problems of its own.

Cottonseed: Output from the 1997/98 Mexican cottonseed crop is estimated at 329,000 tons from 200,000 hectares, nearly an 11-percent decline in production from a year ago, and a 19-percent decline in area. Still, the 1997/98 estimate is significantly higher than the 5-year average, indicative of the instability that farmers are faced with from the perspective of relative cost of production as well as growing conditions.

Historically, Mexican cottonseed ranks among the top five producers in the world in terms of yield, though area and total production are comparatively small.

Cottonseed is the largest oilseed crop in Mexico today in terms of harvested area and production, and farmers are hopeful that cotton will return to its former level of importance. However, the international price of cotton likely will not encourage expansion of the Mexican cotton industry in 1998/99 to pre-1990s levels. The major production areas are in the north (primarily Baja California, Sonora, Coahuila, Chihuahua, and Tamaulipas), where irrigated fields in the summer provide 85 percent of the annual output.

Soybeans: Output from the 1997/98 Mexican soybean crop is estimated at 175,000 tons from 119,000 hectares. This represents a 187-percent production increase over 1996/97, but 110 percent below the 5-year average. Harvested area is likewise up 129 percent over last year, yet far below the 5-year average of 203,000 hectares. Prior to the 3-year drought of the mid-90's, soybean output was approximately half of the country's total oilseeds production. Diminished moisture supplies in recent years encouraged farmers to switch to other crops. A new government support program intended to spur increased planted acreage probably will not show positive results before next year. The top producing states presently are Sinaloa and Sonora in northwest Mexico, and Tamaulipas in the northeast, where irrigated fields in the summer provide 80 percent of the annual output. The southeastern state of Chiapas is a major summer soybean producer on dryland fields.

Peanuts: Output from the 1997/98 Mexican peanut crop is estimated at 120,000 tons from 80,000 hectares. This represents a 7-percent production increase over last year and19 percent above the 5-year average. The 5-year average for harvested area is 77,000 hectares. Mexican peanuts are mostly a summer dryland crop grown in the southern States of Puebla, Oaxaca, Chiapas, Guerrero, and the northwestern States of Chihuahua and Sinaloa.

Palm Oil: Output from the 1997/98 Mexican palm oil crop is estimated at 16,000 tons, compared to 12,000 tons a year ago. The official program to develop production of African palm oil in the states of Tabasco, Veracruz, Campeche, and Chiapas has continued despite budgetary problems and palm oil area is expected to increase for 1998/99.

1997/98 ESTIMATES FOR MEXICAN OILSEEDS

	Area (THa)	Yield (MT/Ha)	Production (TMT)	5-Yr. Avg. (TMT)	Record (TMT)
Cottonseed	200	1.65	329	226	875
Palm Oil	NA	NA	16	4	16
Peanut	80	1.50	120	101	120
Soybean	119	1.47	175	368	984
Copra	NA	NA	209	204	220
Sunflowers	6	0.83	5	4	30

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